

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Fighting fit?
How soldiers are succumbing to heart disease

Getting set
Useful tips for would-be crossword compilers

Science today
Full report on the British Association conference

Sport roundup
All the Bank Holiday racing, football and cricket

Portfolio

The weekly prize in the Times Portfolio competition next weekend will be £40,000, as there was no weekly winner on Saturday. The £2,000 daily prize was won by Mr Drummond Miles, of Liverpool. There is no Portfolio game today as the Stock Exchange is closed for the Bank Holiday.

Harvest is likely to be 15% down

The crop survey compiled by The Times suggests that this year's harvest, even if the weather improves, is likely to be at least 15 per cent lower than last year's.

Police mobbed

A policeman was injured after officers were attacked by a crowd in the area of Birmingham where the father of the boy shot by a policeman was brought up.

Updated shekel

Israel will revalue its currency from September 4 to counter inflation of 44 per cent by introducing a new shekel worth 1,000 present shekels, now worth 0.09p.

Sporting Life

Plans to produce an emergency edition of *Sporting Life* to be distributed to betting shops and racetracks were announced as the Mirror Group dispute remained deadlocked.

Sikh choice

The Sikh Akali Dal party has elected a moderate, Surjit Singh Barnala, to replace its shot president, Harchand Singh Longowal, and strongly backed the accord with the Indian Government.

Vanishing cars

A quarter million cars, including 2,440 Jaguars, 1,319 BMWs and 1,419 Mercedes, were stolen without trace in Britain in the past six years.

Launch off again

The launch of the space shuttle Discovery was postponed for the second time in 24 hours because of mechanical problems.

IRA punishment

Five men are recovering in Ulster hospitals after being beaten and shot by "punishment squads".

Rabat peace bid

Two Moroccan envoys met Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to try to reduce tension between Libya and Tunisia over Libya's expulsion of Tunisian workers.

Lauda's victory

Niki Lauda beat his Marlboro McLaren team-mate, Alain Prost, the leader in the world drivers' championship, to win the Dutch Grand Prix by a fraction of a second.

Leader page 11
Letters: On air safety, from Mr A. Macleod, and others; prisons, from Mr A. Papps
Leading articles: Farming; Sri Lanka
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Billy Bunter gorges again; Washington's outbreak of aides; Spectrum: how Britain's airports barely cope. Monday Page: Alan Franks tours the summer shows
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Foreign investors in big pull-out from South Africa

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Foreign investors are pulling their money out of South Africa at an increasing rate as the political situation worsens and the value of the rand plummets. The Reserve Bank disclosed yesterday in its annual economic report that there was a net outflow of long-term capital from the private sector of 317 million rands (£88.54 million) during the second quarter of the year. Most of that came from sales by non-residents of securities listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The bank said that during the first 10 months of the fiscal year from June 1984 to June 1985 foreign investors bought securities worth £61 million rands.

It said there were indications that net security sales were even higher in July and market sources said yesterday that the figure was expected to top 400 million rands, the biggest ever net outflow. They said the rush to sell accelerated greatly after the declaration of the selective state of emergency on July 20.

The rand was trading at 39 cents against the US dollar on Friday, compared with a value of 78 cents a year ago. Before the state of emergency the rate was just over 52 cents, and it tumbled to an all-time low of 38.5 cents the morning after the speech ten days ago by President Botha to the Natal National Party Congress in Durban.

Against sterling it has fared

equally badly. A pound was worth 3.54 rands on Friday compared with about 1.7 rands a year ago.

As the pressure on South Africa, political and economic intensifies, worried business leaders were reporting yesterday to Lusaka in Zambia to talk to African National Congress officials.

Mr Botha is said to have given them his approval, although earlier this year he sternly opposed a similar trip that was being organised by some of his own backbench MPs.

Last week the head of one of the country's largest supermarket chains, Mr Raymond Ackerman, announced he was forming a committee of ten leading businessmen to tackle economic and political reform. He described Mr Botha's speech in Durban as a "big let down" and said he was determined to show blacks and foreign critics that business was "not part of the Government".

Business leaders are particularly concerned at reports that foreign banks are refusing to roll over short-term private sector loans. One banker said yesterday: "It would not be inaccurate to say that executives are running around like chickens without heads".

An official source estimated that South Africa's short-term foreign loans totalled about \$12 billion of the \$19 billion

outstanding. It also raises the spectre of South Africa being forced into the previously unthinkable option of having to ask for some rescheduling of its foreign debts repayments.

One observer said it was inconceivable that foreign banks would not roll over at least some loans, but a banker said alternative foreign funds might be available only at significantly higher interest rates. "You tell me who wants to borrow money at 45 per cent," he said.

Business sources said yesterday that the reticence of foreign banks about continuing a comfortable relationship with South Africa stemmed more from a hard-nosed assessment of the country's risk profile than the disinvestment campaign. They said the coming week will be crucial in persuading them that it is still a good risk.

But it is feared that the rand will take a further battering today following the arrests of 27 United Democratic Front activists on Friday night.

The arrests came only hours after Dr Allan Boesak, UDF patron, announced that a mass march was to be staged on Wednesday to Pollsmoor Prison outside Cape Town where Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, is held.

He said this weekend that the march would go ahead despite a warning that the police would take "stern action".

EEC demand, page 5

Falklands garrison cuts considered

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence is assessing ways of reducing the size of the British garrison on the Falkland Islands.

The studies are believed to be at an early stage and have not gone in the hands of staff, but they are likely to be put to ministers this autumn.

The size of the garrison was settled down at about 4,500, after the 1982 conflict, although it rose to more than 6,000 when many Royal Engineers soldiers were doing construction work.

The numbers are believed now to be about 3,500. After the opening of the £300 million Mount Pleasant airfield west of Port Stanley, about half a dozen Harrier jump-jet aircraft were withdrawn, and the number of paratroopers or destroyers reduced from three to two.

The Ministry of Defence studies are to assess how large the garrison will need to be once that building is complete.

Several options are being examined, but they appear to fall into two categories. The first is whether it will be necessary to retain a broad capability, including a battalion of infantry,

able to contain any foreseeable attack and to protect civil and military installations. Such a strategy would point to a long-term garrison of about 2,500 to 2,800.

That seems the most likely choice, but a more radical one would be to conclude that a renewed Argentine attack was so unlikely that it would be enough to retain only the capacity to defend the airport, and to rely almost entirely on being able to get reinforcements out from Britain and Ascension Island if an attack ever threatened.

It is thought this approach would require between 600 and 1,000 servicemen.

The services regard further Argentine hostilities as improbable, and would welcome a reduction of their commitment in the South Atlantic because they feel they are badly overstretched.

However, it is known that the Prime Minister was reluctant to permit the withdrawal of a fighting force from the Falklands last winter, and it seems likely that the Government will adopt a cautious approach.

BR braces itself for more disruption today

By Donald MacIntyre, Labour Editor

British Rail braced itself last night for disruption on the Eastern Region today as soundings round the country continued to suggest that most of its 11,000 guards have voted for industrial action over the proposed one-man operation of trains.

The management said that up to a fifth of Bank Holiday Inter-City services between King's Cross, London, and eastern Scotland could be cut because of a planned strike by 150 Doncaster-based guards in protest at the dismissal of 32 guards at Immingham last week. About half the services between Doncaster and Leeds, Hull and Sheffield could also be affected.

One train to Aberdeen and another to Edinburgh were cancelled last night and earlier in the day, a week-long over-

time ban by King's Cross guards affected Inter-City routes for the first time when a service to Newcastle upon Tyne was cancelled.

Mr Wilf Proudfoot, the Doncaster divisional officer for the National Union of Railwaymen, said last night that he expected some drivers to walk out in support of the guards at Doncaster, but the extent of the strike, which was called before last Friday's ballot was brought forward by a week, would not be known until today.

Although the result will not be known until Wednesday when the envelopes containing the ballot papers are opened and counted in the presence of officials from the Electoral Reform Society, NUR leaders

Continued on back page, col 1

It's cold, it's wet, it's bank holiday

By Alan Hamilton

St Swithin's 40 days of damp weather should have ended on Saturday night, but the seemingly unending summer rain continued to make martyrs of British bank holiday makers yesterday.

For much of the day London and the south-east enjoyed an uncharacteristically long spell of sunshine, although the temperature of 19°C recorded at the London Weather Centre was at least 2°C below the expected average for the time of year.

But those gamblers who wagered with William Hill, the bookmakers, on rain falling on London every day in August still appear to be on a winner.

A light afternoon shower damped the London Weather Centre's forecast of more rain spread in from the north later in the day.

Most of the rest of the country, however, endured the typical pattern of showers or longer outbreaks of rain, with particularly heavy falls in the South-west and along the south coast.

The motorway organisations reported unusually light Bank holiday traffic, with most families apparently already engaged on a typically British summer holiday, or else not daring to venture far from their homes.

Most regular bottlenecks were free from delays, and the only reported big holdups were on the two principal escape routes from Britain, the M4 spur to the new airport and the A2 Jubilee Way into Dover. The Royal Automobile Club has advised holiday makers to stagger the departure times of their homeward journeys today, in case the entire disgruntled population attempts to abandon the country.

Today's weather prospects are in fact more encouraging than of late. The London Weather Centre yesterday forecast a generally dry and sunny day for most of the country, except for some showers in eastern counties.

Continued on back page, col 6



Allan Border took what rest and shelter he could at Canterbury yesterday before re-entering the Test match arena at the Oval on Thursday. The Australian captain, who needs to win the final Test to retain the Ashes, was fielding against Kent at the St Lawrence ground, where the famous lime offers a seat and shade inside the boundary.

England announced an unchanged team yesterday (page 14): Border and his co-

selectors still have a few days in which to make up their minds. Yesterday, Richard Ellison, one of the England squad, took two of the three Australian wickets to fall. Border did not bat.

The time has been a Kent cricket landmark since the county club moved to Canterbury in 1896. The ashes of deceased club members are occasionally scattered about its trunk. (Photograph: Chris Cole).

Kampala ousts coup Prime Minister

From Richard Dowden, Kampala

Mr Paulo Muwanga, the veteran Ugandan politician who has served in every administration since independence, was yesterday sacked as Prime Minister only three weeks after taking office. He is to be replaced by Mr Abraham Waligwo, Minister of Finance.

The dismissal was intended as a gesture to the National Resistance Army, the rebel group whose leaders will meet a Government delegation in Nairobi today. Last night NRA sources said, however, that it was of no major significance.

The Ugandan delegation, led by Brigadier Zedi Mazuru and including the Foreign Minister, Mr Olara Otunbo, and Major Eric Oduu, was due in Nairobi last night.

They are hoping to persuade Mr Yoweri Museveni, the NRA leader to lay down the guns and join the new administration, but Mr Museveni is still insisting that he meets the delegation as a representative of the Government of Uganda. He is also demanding more than half of the seats on the ruling Military Council.

To emphasize his demands, NRA fighters attacked Uganda Army units north of Kampala on Friday and were reported at

the weekend to be moving towards the capital.

Mr Waligwo is an apolitical appointment. An engineer, he was appointed Minister of Works in 1980 and then Minister of Housing and Urban Development, a post he held until the July 27 coup which overthrew President Obote. He is an open, unpretentious, able technocrat who has won the hearts of Kampala people by spurring his official Mercedes and driving himself to work in a green Volkswagen.

The fall of Mr Muwanga, Vice President and Minister of Defence in the Obote Government, represents the final disappearance of its major figures. It is widely believed that he, more than anyone else, was responsible for the regime's character.

After the coup, the Democratic Party, the country's largest, was dismayed to find him calling on politicians on behalf of the new military rulers to try to put together a government.

He had been close to Lieutenant General Tito Okello, the head of state, but relations between the coup leader, Brigadier Basilio Okello, have been strained. An overbearing but shrewd politician, he was widely feared.

Lange ready to relent

New Zealand has taken the first steps towards a compromise on its nuclear warships ban, which has strained relations with Washington and all but ended its role in the Anzus alliance with Washington and Canberra, (Richard Long-Writes from Wellington).

But while the movement will ease the task of the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer, who is to have talks on the issue in Washington next

month with the secretary of state Mr George Shultz, it is likely to bring trouble at the New Zealand Labour Party's annual conference next weekend. Party activists not only want the strong line maintained, but want to see New Zealand take the next step, complete withdrawal from Anzus and a policy of neutrality.

Full story, page 5

Jet team check work on engine

By Colin Hughes and Robin Young

Aviation safety experts are inquiring into the Boeing 737 fire at Manchester airport after investigating claims that previous problems with the aircraft's port engine were inadequately checked before its fatal attempted flight last Thursday.

Sources within British Airways say that pilots who flew Juliet Lima in the days before the disaster reported problems with the port engine, which exploded in the accident.

They say that engineers were told the port engine was sluggish in acceleration, gave

A British Airways Boeing 737 made an emergency landing at Heathrow airport, London, last night, after an engine failed.

fluctuating fuel flow readings, and shifting temperatures of air gas mixtures. All are symptoms of problems with the engine's compressor blades and combustion chambers.

Pratt and Whitney, makers of the JT8D-15 engine, believe that the engine explosion and fire was caused by a combustion chamber blow out, but the accident investigators remain cautious.

During the night before Juliet Lima taxied out to disaster, the plane was overhauled in a Manchester airport hangar in an attempt to trace the source of reported problems with the engine.

According to British Airways experts close to the inquiry, that overhaul did not include a complete stripping of the "hot section" module, which contains the combustion chambers. Engineers could have eliminated combustion chamber faults as a source of the problem only by taking the entire module to pieces. That would need more than a day's work.

The engineers minutely studied the compressor fan blades and other moving parts to check for signs of fracture. They used an optical instrument known as a borescope, which can be operated without dismantling the module.

Although the checks were carried out by British Airways engineers, the responsibility for deciding to go ahead with a flight would have lain with the operators, British Airways, a subsidiary of British Airways Airways, headquarters are at Gatwick, and the British Airways engineers at Manchester are, in effect, an outstation.

Pilots throughout the industry agree that the current pressure from any of the holiday package operators to keep planes in the air during peak periods are intense.

Accident Investigation Branch (AIB) inspectors have been told that a British Airways captain made a brief entry in Juliet Lima's technical log on the port engine problems, while writing a separate, unlogged

Continued on page 2, col 3

Secretary held in Bonn spy scandal

From Our Correspondent Bonn

The Bonn spy scandal grew last night with the arrest of a secretary in the office of Herr Richard von Weizsäcker, the West German Federal President, on suspicion of spying for East Germany.

The Federal Public Prosecutor's Office in Karlsruhe said the unnamed woman was arrested early yesterday.

The arrest follows the defection last week of a senior counter-intelligence official to East Germany and the disappearance earlier this month of two other Bonn secretaries suspected of having been long-serving East German spies. One of the women was the chief secretary of Herr Martin Bangemann, West Germany's Economics Minister.

The head of the West German secret service is expected to be sacked this week in the wake of the defection of Herr Hans Joachim Tiedge, the counter-intelligence official.

Herr Heribert Hellanbroich, Chief of the Bundesnachrichtendienst (BN), Germany's MIS, for fewer than four weeks, was in charge of Herr Tiedge until last month and knew he was a high-security risk.

Herr Hellanbroich admitted yesterday he had been warned by his deputy three times that Herr Tiedge, aged 48, a widower with three teenage daughters, had serious drink and debt problems. "But removing a man of his rank from his job would have made him an even greater security risk," he said.

"I will not offer my resignation because I do not see that I have done anything wrong," he added.

Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Interior Minister, yesterday announced the reorganisation of the counter-intelligence service. In a news paper interview to be published today he said the defection of Herr Tiedge would have serious political consequences and badly disrupt intelligence work.

Herr Tiedge was in command of operations against East German spies in the Office for the Protection of the Constitution in Cologne, where he had worked for 19 years.

Officials in Bonn fear that if he divulges all this information to the East Germans it could compromise West German counter-intelligence activities for several years. However, Herr Zimmermann, who broke off a Mediterranean holiday because of the affair, said there were "no grounds for panic".

Herr Zimmermann met security chiefs at the weekend to discuss "damage control" measures. West German agents in Eastern Europe were warned about Herr Tiedge's disappearance before the announcement that he had asked for political asylum in East Berlin.

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LOMBARD

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International chess honour for 'Times' man

In a full session yesterday of the qualification commission of Fide, the world chess federation, the title of international grandmaster was conferred on Mr Harry Golombek, OBE.

A special tribute was paid to Mr Golombek by Mr Florencio Campomanes, the president of the world chess federation. He mentioned Mr Golombek's lifetime of dedication to chess and his world-wide service to chess literature and popularisation.

At the same session the title of international master was awarded to two young British players, Mr Keith Arkell and Mr David Norwood.

Chess report, page 2

Reagan acted as informer for FBI

From Michael Binyon Washington

President Reagan was once an informer for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, keeping track of fellow actors in Hollywood suspected of being Communists, according to documents just released.

The aspiring politician, then president of the Screen Actors Guild, kept the FBI informed about pro-Communist influences in the guild and other Hollywood organisations. Mr Reagan and his first wife, Jayne Wyman, handed over the names of actors they believed were members of a clique with a pro-Communist line.

The records showing this were obtained by a California newspaper under a freedom-of-information request. A White House spokesman said FBI



Reagan and Jane Wyman in their Hollywood days.

officials told him that Mr Reagan's involvement with the bureau was "very minor", little more than those people who had been contacted by the House un-American activities committee, the inquisitorial body that exercised such power in Senator McCarthy's day. Mr Reagan, however, dis-

agreed with the tactics of the committee in trying to rid the film industry of Communists. In one interview with the FBI, the documents show, he asked an agent: "Do they expect us to constitute ourselves as a little FBI of our own and determine just who is a Commie and who isn't?"

The first recording of an FBI Agent interviewing Mr Reagan was on November 18, 1943, in connection with the bureau's investigation of an unidentified German sympathizer. Mr Reagan, then 32, was assigned to the Army Air Corps' film unit at Camp Reisch, in California.

The next recorded interview with the FBI was in 1947, in connection with its investigation of one of the Hollywood committees from which Mr

Reagan resigned when he thought they were controlled by Communists. The FBI Report said he and nine other members from which Mr Reagan resigned when he thought they were controlled by Communists. The FBI report said he and nine other members had tried to create an issue to justify their resignations, putting forward a resolution condemning Communism as well as Fascism. When this was defeated, Mr Reagan resigned by telegram the same night.

Meanwhile, The New York Times reported yesterday that the FBI has calculated that at least 12,000 invalid or inaccurate reports on suspects wanted for arrest are sent each day to US law-enforcement agencies.

Summit goals, page 4

26 أغسطس 1985

Crop survey: Fields heavy with late, poor, rain-sodden grains

Harvest likely to be 15% below last year's - if the weather improves

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

This year's harvest is likely to be at least 15 per cent down on last year's, even if the weather improves in the next few weeks, the second of this year's crop surveys compiled by *The Times* suggests.

Should the wet weather continue, many fields could be a complete write-off, and the overall loss of production far more serious.

Nationally, the quality of wheat, barley and oilseed rape is 10-12 per cent below last year's assessment at the same stage. But the figures do not take into account the fact that crops which in a good year would have been cut several weeks ago are still in the fields, and have been flattened by heavy rain.

Farmers are faced with daunting fuel bills for drying their salvaged crops, and the prospect that they will not meet the quality requirements for intervention purchase. Planting

of next season's crops will be badly delayed, and there could even be a shortage of seed.

From the north of Scotland to Cornwall, reports from correspondents present a picture of almost unrelieved gloom. The quiet satisfaction that may be felt in Whitehall and Brussels at the prospect of some diminution in the grain surpluses will not find any welcoming echo among individual growers faced with severe financial difficulties.

The wettest harvest I have experienced, a reader in Kent writes. "My combines stopped on July 27 and did not start again until August 13."

"The worst wet weather I can remember," a North Wales farmer comments. "What can I say with a disaster staring me in the face?" a Scottish colleague asks.

"With lower yields, quality and prices, it is possible to

forecast a drop of at least £50 an acre," a Suffolk grower suggests.

Wheat appears to have been the most susceptible to "lodging" or flattening, probably because it has a naturally straighter, less flexible stem than barley. Patches of lodging are commonplace in most years, but this time whole fields have gone down, with only isolated tufts left standing.

A sorry-looking crop, very storm-battered, a Suffolk farmer reports. "Twenty per cent badly laid and rotting on sodden ground; eyespot rife and some fusarium," a Cambridge

shire man observes, adding, as do many others, that some varieties seem to have withstood the weather notably more successfully than others.

From the normally prolific Lincolnshire grain country comes a comment that only a prolonged dry period will make it possible to harvest what will in any case be a low-quality crop. A Norfolk grower reports that most of his crop is still standing but is in imminent danger of sprouting.

Away from the main arable areas it is much the same story: "mould on the ears" in Devon; "laid flat" in Gloucestershire; "deteriorating rapidly" in Worcestershire and Humberside. Interestingly, a Wiltshire grower says that his organically grown crops have stood up better than "conventional" ones, and he suggests that many farmers have been lulled by two dry summers into applying too much fertilizer.

Barley presents a more mixed picture. Some farmers who have managed to harvest their crops report that yields are better than expected, but a correspondent in Gloucestershire says that his silt-uncut winter barley is looking worse and worse. The Wiltshire man who states that his spring barley may prove to be the crop of the year is an exception; others report almost total disaster.

Experience with oilseed rape this year seems certain to make

Mrs Nicky Thompson displaying the contrast in the grapes she and her husband Nigel will be harvesting at their Stichcombe Vineyard, near Marlborough, in Wiltshire. The dismal summer is expected to cut their production by half and the harvest will be a month late.

The larger, nearly normal, grapes have been growing in expensive polytunnels,

plastic sheeting that covers four rows of grapes on the five-and-a-half-acre vineyard.

Mr and Mrs Thompson are hoping for a sunny September to ripen the grapes not grown under cover, with the delayed harvest likely to be in November when there will be the added risk of frost.

(Photograph: Richard Wintle)

farmers think again about its attraction as a profitable break crop. A reader in Cornwall estimates that he will be lucky to get half a tonne an acre, and says that many fields will not be worth combining.

Some farmers report that potatoes are looking well but are discouraged by low prices for early crops. Blight appears to be widespread: "More than I have ever seen," a Lancashire grower laments. "Preventive sprays seem useless."

A Norfolk man describes his vining peas as probably the best crop of the year, but a Lincolnshire grower has had to

plough in most of his. Root vegetables generally appear to be doing reasonably well, and a Wiltshire farmer reports that his first-time experimental lupin crop is flowering and podding well.

Grass has, of course, grown exceptionally well in the wet conditions, but in many areas has been almost impossible to cut. Hence paradoxically, while grazing has been lush, there are likely to be serious shortages of hay and silage in the coming winter.

But it is the grain farmers, who have prospered most in recent years, who now appear to

be facing the biggest setback. A Cambridgeshire reader suggests that many will find it difficult to get moisture levels down to intervention standards, and a correspondent in the Vale of York observes wryly that bank managers are attending local National Farmers' Union meetings more frequently.

In the tables a rating of 100 represents healthy conditions, full growth and freedom from injury. Key: W (wheat), B (barley), O (oilseed rape), P (potatoes), S (sugar beet) and G (grass).

Leading article, page 11

| Division 1 | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Bedford | 85 | 81 | 85 | 88 | 90 | 90 |
| Cambridge | 84 | 84 | 90 | 93 | 92 | 86 |
| Essex | 88 | 83 | 85 | 85 | 82 | 82 |
| Hertford | 84 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Humberside | 71 | 81 | 85 | 88 | 91 | 95 |
| Lincolnshire | 85 | 89 | 88 | 83 | 91 | 95 |
| Norfolk | 81 | 81 | 78 | 82 | 87 | 89 |
| Suffolk | 83 | 85 | 87 | 86 | 89 | 93 |
| Averages | 83 | 85 | 87 | 86 | 89 | 93 |

| Division 3 | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Cornwall | 85 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| Devon | 87 | 89 | 85 | 82 | 82 | 82 |
| Dorset | 83 | 82 | 72 | 80 | 82 | 82 |
| Gloucester | 78 | 77 | 72 | 80 | 82 | 82 |
| Hampshire | 87 | 86 | 85 | 88 | 92 | 93 |
| Hereford & Worcester | 85 | 82 | 80 | 80 | 86 | 90 |
| Salop | 70 | 79 | 84 | 85 | 87 | 89 |
| Somerset | 82 | 81 | 78 | 80 | 91 | 92 |
| Wiltshire | 82 | 81 | 78 | 80 | 91 | 92 |
| Averages | 82 | 81 | 78 | 80 | 91 | 92 |

| Scotland | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Borders | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 100 | 100 |
| Dumfries & Galloway | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Highland | 85 | 80 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 |
| Lothian | 80 | 75 | 78 | 82 | 82 | 82 |
| Strathclyde | 80 | 83 | 78 | 77 | 83 | 83 |
| Tayside | 80 | 83 | 78 | 77 | 83 | 83 |
| Averages | 80 | 83 | 78 | 77 | 83 | 83 |

| Division 2 | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Berkshire | 93 | 89 | 92 | 94 | 94 | 94 |
| Buckinghamshire | 76 | 70 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 83 |
| Hampshire | 74 | 76 | 70 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Kent | 87 | 89 | 88 | 102 | 102 | 102 |
| Leicestershire | 82 | 83 | 81 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Northamptonshire | 73 | 74 | 81 | 94 | 95 | 95 |
| Nottinghamshire | 80 | 80 | 75 | 85 | 85 | 85 |
| Oxford | 85 | 87 | 88 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Surrey | 78 | 74 | 77 | 80 | 89 | 89 |
| Sussex | 80 | 81 | 75 | 78 | 83 | 83 |
| Warwick | 88 | 83 | 83 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Averages | 81 | 82 | 81 | 92 | 92 | 92 |

| Division 4 | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Cheshire | 88 | 85 | 87 | 88 | 88 | 88 |
| Cumbria | 88 | 84 | 86 | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| Derbyshire | 82 | 73 | 73 | 83 | 83 | 83 |
| Durham | 88 | 85 | 85 | 84 | 84 | 84 |
| Lancashire | 85 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Northumbria | 84 | 89 | 83 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Staffordshire | 84 | 89 | 83 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Yorkshire | 71 | 88 | 78 | 89 | 89 | 89 |
| Averages | 84 | 85 | 82 | 88 | 88 | 88 |

| England | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Dyfed | 95 | 96 | 86 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Gwynedd | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Mid Glamorgan | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Powys | 70 | 75 | 75 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| South Glamorgan | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Averages | 82 | 82 | 80 | 87 | 87 | 87 |

| Wales | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Dyfed | 95 | 96 | 86 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Gwynedd | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Mid Glamorgan | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Powys | 70 | 75 | 75 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| South Glamorgan | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Averages | 82 | 82 | 80 | 87 | 87 | 87 |

| Great Britain | W | B | O | P | S | G |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Dyfed | 95 | 96 | 86 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Gwynedd | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Mid Glamorgan | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Powys | 70 | 75 | 75 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| South Glamorgan | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Averages | 82 | 82 | 80 | 87 | 87 | 87 |

BBC denies MI5 brief for assistant

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Alasdair Milne, director general of the BBC, last night denied that his chief assistant, Miss Margaret Douglas, received regular and secret briefs from MI5 on terrorism and subversion.

But in response to a report in *The Observer* yesterday, Mr Milne failed to say whether MI5 briefing took place at any level of the BBC.

The BBC press office said last night: "There is nothing we can say on this at this stage. Questions should be put to the appropriate government department."

The Observer report had said that Miss Douglas, who had "the unspoken but formal role of liaising with MI5", received the secret background briefs every three months.

It was alleged that the briefs outlined "the background to terrorist attacks in Britain, described changes in the leadership and policy of political groups, and traced the involvement of 'subversive' groups in industrial disputes and ad hoc campaigns." It was also claimed that MI5 officers held occasional meetings with Miss Douglas.

TV's press advertising for racists criticized

By Our Political Correspondent

The BBC has been condemned by Mr Enoch Powell for trying to recruit racists for a television programme by placing an anonymous advertisement in the Press.

Mr Edward Goldwyn, a senior producer in the BBC's science and features department, put two anonymous advertisements in the *Daily Telegraph* in June in an attempt to sound out the views of "private people" for an *Horizon* programme "examining grass roots attitudes to racism in Britain".

The first advertisement asked: "Are you a racist? Have you the courage to voice your opinions?" The second, published a week later, asked: "Have you ever been a victim of racism? Would you be able to speak about it?" In both cases, people were asked to write to a box number.

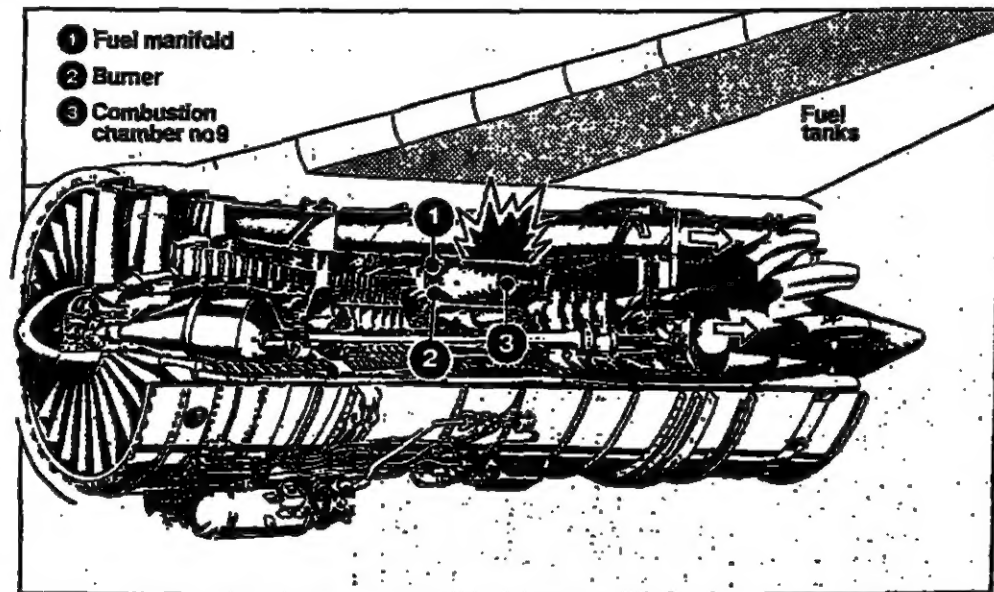
When the matter was raised

with Mr Powell earlier this month, he wrote to Mr Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC, expressing his surprise and asking: "This cannot surely be a matter of proceeding, by way of anonymous survey, of which the government would approve?"

But he has been told by the BBC that it regards the purpose of the exercise as "serious and responsible", although it was accepted that the wording of one of the advertisements might not have reflected the "great care" demanded by the sensitivity of the issue.

Mr Powell was told: "It is not unusual, however, for documentary programmes to ask people through notices in the Press to relate their experiences as personal views."

The official Unionist MP for Down South told *The Times* that he felt the practice was sneaky and disgraceful. He said: "I am astonished that the BBC should attempt to defend it."



Pratt and Whitney blame a combustion chamber blowout for the JT3D2 crash.

737 engine work is checked 'safe' jet is grounded

By Robin Young

Continued from page 1

note to the engineers describing the work more fully.

Captain Peter Tarrington, who commanded the aircraft on flight KT328's aborted take-off on Thursday morning, would have seen the log, but he may not have had the advantage of a full account of the engine's recent history.

An AIB spokesman said it has heard reports concerning entries in the technical log about problems with the port engine. The log has been impounded with all other internal documentation relating to the plane, and it is a matter that our inspectors will be investigating thoroughly. They will be taking statements from all those involved.

It is not uncommon for pilots to make limited log entries, sufficient to cover themselves, while giving more detailed accounts to ground staff.

Pratt and Whitney issued statements from its United States headquarters over the weekend, saying that early inspection of the Juliet Lima engine suggest no moving parts were at fault. The company assumed that combustion chamber number nine, which lies directly underneath the fuel supply line from the wing, had blown out, causing engine explosion and subsequent fuel fire.

British experts are not convinced.

British Airways' engineers were embarrassed at the weekend when obliged to ground a Boeing 747 at Heathrow Airport after finding holes in a seal between the roller and fin section during a routine check.

British Airways insisted the fault was nothing to do with the main fuselage and raised no question of metal fatigue. But its discovery came a day after a statement by the airline's director of engineering that the company's safety checks had cleared its 747s of faults in the wake of the Japanese air disaster 11 days ago in which 520 people died.

Mr Alistair Cummings, British Airways' director of engineering, said each of the company's 747s had had a four-hour inspection.

He claimed that the new checks had shown that the airline's aircraft were free of defects in the areas which had come under suspicion after the Japanese crash.

Some aviation safety experts are concerned, however, that four-hour visual inspections are insufficient. This week's issue of *Flight International*, the aviation industry's leading technical journal, argues that a Boeing 747 should be grounded and subjected to an in-depth structural examination. The magazine says fin failure could have been caused in a number of

ways, and that all parts of the 747 tail structure should be specially re-inspected until possible causes for the Japanese disaster have been removed.

Japan Airlines admitted yesterday that it had flown a Boeing 747 jumbo on international routes for two days with a damaged door temporarily fixed with gummed tape.

On August 18, six days after JAL's Flight 123 crashed, a ramp hit a rear door of the JAL jumbo at Sydney, damaging a hinge. The aircraft left for Tokyo after 75 passengers sitting near the door had been moved to another plane.

After emergency work at Tokyo, the plane left the next day for Paris via Anchorage and Düsseldorf. On the flight to Anchorage the door's handle moved to the "open" position, activating a warning signal.

The Japanese transport ministry said on Saturday that cracks, damaged or loose bolts, and rusty parts had been found in 23 Japanese operated Boeing 747s. Fifteen damaged bolts had been found in the bulkhead section of seven 747s and in the vertical stabilizers of two more.

Mr Justice B. Kirpal, heading the inquiry into the Air India Boeing 747 crash which killed 329 people, believes the cause may be established only if the main structure is salvaged from the Irish Sea.

Letters, page 11

Five Ulster 'criminals' beaten or shot by IRA

From Tim Jones, Belfast

Five men were recovering in hospital in Northern Ireland last night after being shot and beaten by Provisional IRA punishment squads.

Another man, Mr Peter Begley, the father of seven children, was also in hospital after accidentally detonating a bomb placed by the Irish National Liberation Army to kill members of the security forces.

In the Irish Republic, the police were guarding the hospital bedside of another man who was shot in the legs in a bar in Dundalk.

The blast that seriously injured Mr Begley was the third terrorist "mistake" of the week. Earlier, the Provisional IRA had apologized for murdering Mr Daniel Mallon after mistaking him for a supplier of building materials to the security forces.

The other "mistake" was an ambush on Friday night, near Pomeroy, in which Mr Kieron Murray, aged 28, a farm labourer, died. The gunmen apparently mistook the car in which he was travelling for a similar one owned by a local police officer.

Mr Begley was injured when he went to warn his neighbour, Mr Francis McGuinness, at his home in Meigh, south Armagh, about a suspicious object, a beer keg, under a railway bridge near by. The beer keg, in fact, contained no explosives.

But Mr McGuinness had been kidnapped and held overnight across the border while the INLA members installed a bomb push on his front door connected to a huge bomb. When Mr Begley pressed the bell push he caught the full force of the blast.

The INLA said that it had given a 12 hour warning about the beer keg left under the bridge and added that Mr Begley would not have been injured if the police had sealed off the area.

The police said the terrorists had shown a reckless disregard for life and would have been well aware that anyone calling at the house would have rung the doorbell.

Four of the men punished by the Provisional IRA were found in an alley in west Belfast after being shot in the legs by gunmen. Last week, the Provisionals had said they would take action against alleged criminals.

The fifth man was severely beaten with a crowbar, sledgehammer and pick-axe handle by masked men who burst into his home at Downpatrick.

Speaking in Cork in the Republic on Saturday, Mr Peter Barry, Minister for Foreign Affairs, said that nationalists and unionists should "resist the efforts of the bombers and the murderers to destroy progress and sabotage the prospects of peace."

Asking his fellow nationalists to be the first to be generous to the unionist tradition, he added: "Whether the current Anglo-Irish negotiations succeed or fail, we must stretch out the hand of genuine respectful friendship to those who share Ireland with us and, even if it is disdained or rejected, we must keep it outstretched."

Letters, page 11

Nato's air defence in Atlantic to be reviewed

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

A study is to be carried out for the Ministry of Defence this autumn of problems in the organization of Nato's air defences in the eastern Atlantic.

In war those defences would be very important for the protection of convoys crossing from the United States, and also because Russian air attacks against the United Kingdom, and the Channel area might well come from the north to avoid the dense defences in Germany.

Captain Colin Cooke-Priest, Director of the Maritime Tactical School at Portsmouth, said yesterday that the study would begin at the end of next month, and would involve several Nato nations.

Among the problems are difficulties caused by overlapping command boundaries, and the need to have effective machinery for integrating air operations from aircraft carriers with those of land-based aircraft.

The study is likely to re-emphasize the importance of the use of airborne early warning aircraft to detect enemy activity.

Girl found dead in kitchen

A murder inquiry has been started after the discovery of the body of Tracey Humphreys, aged 16, in a kitchen at her home at Irthingborough, Northamptonshire. Detectives who called to the house yesterday also found her mother, Mrs Jean Humphreys, and brother, Anthony, aged 15, severely injured.

The girl had been at home for the weekend and had been due to return to her live-in job at a riding stable 15 miles away today. A man was being questioned by the police last night.

Gurkhas face drug charges

Six members of the Gurkha Rifles are to appear before magistrates at Unbridge, West London, today, one charged with smuggling heroin and the rest with smuggling cannabis.

The Gurkhas, from the Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire, were arrested at Heathrow Airport on Friday.

Marksman killed

Mr Adrian Edwards, aged 41, a marksman and schoolteacher of Sinterland Road, Ponders End, north London, shot himself dead accidentally with a .302 target rifle at the National Rifle Association ranges at Bales, Surrey, on Saturday.

Stabbing death

Clubgoers were being interviewed by police last night after a man aged 21 was stabbed to death early yesterday outside Tiffany's in Sheffield near the police headquarters.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia £25, Belgium £10, Canada \$25, France £10, Germany £10, Hong Kong \$25, India £10, Ireland £10, Italy £10, Japan ¥1,000, New Zealand \$25, Norway £10, Portugal £10, Singapore \$25, South Africa £10, Sweden £10, Switzerland £10, Taiwan \$25, Thailand £10, USA \$25, Yugoslavia £10.

Minister to visit TUC Congress

By Our Labour Editor

A Government minister is planning to attend the TUC Congress in Blackpool next week. Mr Peter Bottomley, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of Employment, is expected to attend the Congress as an observer for at least two days.

Visits by Conservative ministers to the TUC, although not unknown, have been rare throughout the Congress's 117-year-old history. The last to attend was Mr Jim Lester, who visited the TUC five years ago while a junior employment minister under Mr Jim Prior.

Mr Bottomley,

Relatives of boy aged five shot dead by police demand public inquiry

By Robin Young

Relatives of the boy aged five shot dead in bed during a dawn police raid on his home in Birmingham on Saturday yesterday demanded a full public inquiry.

The family's constituency MP, Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Suff. Oak), refused to support their claim, but said that he would wish to see the report which will be submitted by Mr Joe Mounsey, Assistant Chief Constable of Lancashire, who has been appointed to investigate.

Mr Mike Lewis, the uncle of John Shorthouse, the boy who died, said yesterday: "We want a public inquiry, not a police inquiry. A lot more things will come out that way."

Mr Lewis said that the shooting happened 10 minutes after the boy's father, also called John Shorthouse, had been taken from the flat by police without resisting. "The family are very, very bitter about the shooting," he said.

At a press conference on Saturday the Chief Constable of West Midlands, Mr Geoffrey Dear, expressed "deepest regret and sincere sympathy" to the Shorthouse family, and said that the inquiry by Mr Mounsey would "encompass any possible criminal and discipline issues".

The police officer who shot the boy has been suspended on full pay. His identity has not been disclosed by the force which claims that he fired his Smith & Wesson .357 revolver into a bundle of bedclothes while searching under a divan with his hand resting on top of the bed.

Mr John Shorthouse, aged 26, was arrested and taken with two other men to Llanelli police station where last night they

were still being questioned by Dyfed-Powys police in connection with an armed robbery at the Old Moat House restaurant, Kidwelly, last Thursday night. During the robbery the owner, Mr Norman Aubrey, was threatened with a pump-action shotgun, bound and gagged, and £170 was stolen.

West Midlands police said that a firearm had been recovered in connection with the alleged robbery, but it is understood it was not found in the Shorthouses' flat.

Mr Beaumont-Dark said yesterday that he did not think the inquiry should be public because "the police are usually harsher on their own".

The Conservative MP added: "I have never known a police inquiry that has tried to hush things up, but if the report cannot be made public I think I should have a right to see it to allay any public fears, even though I do not believe that such fears are justified."

Mr Beaumont-Dark said that a lawyer representing the family should be allowed to attend the inquiry.

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John Shorthouse: shot dead by a police officer.

Companies 'not telling employees enough'

By Clifford Feltham

Many companies are flouting the law by not telling their workers enough about the business, according to the Institute of Directors.

A survey published today shows that only nine of a hundred companies comply with the Employment Act, 1982, which lays down what employees must be told.

The institute is worried that further legislation may have to be introduced because so many companies are content to pay lip service to the Act.

The Act requires companies with more than 250 employees to provide information under four headings, including consulting employees about decisions likely to affect their livelihood and encouraging them to take part in staff share schemes.

According to the survey, only 9 per cent of companies questioned provided information under all headings. 33 per cent under three headings, 31 per cent under two and 27 per cent under one only, the minimum.

It singles out Blue Circle Industries as an example of how statements on employee involvement should be presented.

"The implications for businesses in this country are quite clear," the institute says. "A body of opinion in the United Kingdom and throughout the European Community is determined to introduce employee involvement by legislative means."

"The only effective way of demonstrating the error of this approach is to render it unnecessary by developing consultation and participation voluntarily."

The alternative is for companies to continue to ignore the warnings until it is too late and they are compelled to choose between a set of statutory systems of involvement, none of which may be suitable to their circumstances.



Sunday best, if the Sunday is children's day at Notting Hill Carnival, can be a colourful affair, as this youngster goes to prove.

Anglicans and Rome agree on key dispute over faith

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

Anglican and Roman Catholic representatives will meet in the United States tomorrow to approve a solution to the key dispute of the Reformation, the doctrine of justification by faith alone.

The Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, set up by the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury, has agreed a statement which is expected to be published next year.

Some matters, regarded as secondary, are also understood to be on the agenda including the Roman Catholic practice of indulgences and of prayers and Masses for the dead.

A solution to the theological problem of justification is regarded by most Evangelical Anglicans as the one essential condition for Anglican-Roman Catholic church unity.

Once published, the agreed statement will have to be ratified.

The commission is meeting at Garrison, New York state, under its two chairmen, the Bishop of Kensington, the Right Rev Mark Santer, and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, the Right Rev Cormac Murphy-O'Connor.

Its international membership includes at least four Evangelical Anglicans, including so that

the issue of justification should be handled in a way that would meet the Protestant position.

Details of the solution the commission is said to have found are not yet known, but it is likely to rely on a reinterpretation of the teaching of the sixteenth-century Council of Trent, which was called to repudiate the "errors" of Martin Luther and his followers.

Luther accused the Catholic Church of teaching "justification by good works," which arose from his protest at the sale of indulgences.

The Council, according to recent scholarship, did not endorse justification by works.

Evangelical members of the commission, although satisfied with the terms of the statement on fundamental principles, are believed to have questioned how certain Catholic devotions such as prayers for the dead could be square with it.

Catholic experts have therefore produced further papers designed to show how these practices fit into a theology that excluded "works" or "merit" as a factor in salvation.

The basic agreement undoubtedly emphasises that salvation is the work of God and not of man, "through grace alone," and was made possible for man by Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

£23m deal for casinos

Grand Metropolitan, the drinks and hotels group, is to pay about £23 million to give it complete control of the Mayfair casinos, the Ritz and the Casanova.

The shares are being sold by the Plesurama group, which operates 17 provincial casinos and five in London.

The Grand Metropolitan chairman, Mr Stanley Grint, said, who has four London casinos, has sought outright ownership of the Ritz and Casanova for some time.

Negotiations have been intensified since Plesurama took over the casino operator Trident Television earlier this year for £120 million.

This made Plesurama a rival to the Grand Metropolitan, creating a conflict of interest in the continued joint ownership of the Ritz and Casanova.

Pressure on Tories to 'go green'

Tony Sanstang

The Bow Group today intensifies its effort to "green" the Conservative Party with the publication in its quarterly magazine *Crossbow* of a contentious article rhetorically titled, "Environment - does the Prime Minister care?"

Last year, as the party prepared for its Brighton conference and its first debate on conservation issues, the right-wing ginger group published a 20-page leaflet warning of a heavy electoral penalty if the Conservatives continued to neglect the expanding conservationist vote. This year, Mr Tony Paterson, author of both pieces, sees signs of growing environmental awareness, but insists that progress has been "hampered" by Cabinet intransigence.

Noting that 44 Conservative MPs signed an early-day motion last month calling, in vain, for the Government to join those nations committed to reducing sulphur dioxide emissions, the author claims that a greater sense of urgency on the backbenches is not reflected in the opinions of several ministers who remain unconvinced that there are many votes in environmental issues.

He adds that the electoral penalty forecast last year is falling due. The Liberal-SDP Alliance has won seats in areas where conservation is of local concern, most recently Brecon and Radnor, and "Dr David Owen, who knows how to trap the Tory vote, is now focusing on green issues".

Among the proposals for the proposed building of new villages in the Green Belt, which, Mr Paterson says, would be electorally disastrous.

Crossbow (Bow Publications, 240 High Holborn, London WC1V 7DT, £1.25 inc p&p).

'Acid rain' test for Britain's beeches

The Forestry Commission has agreed to carry out a sample survey of beech trees to determine whether they have been affected by atmospheric pollution. (John Young writes).

The commission is anxious to avoid a war of words with Friends of the Earth, which claims that both deciduous and coniferous trees are showing similar symptoms to those afflicting forests on the Continent.

Friends of the Earth says the main culprit is so-called acid rain, the fall out from emissions of sulphur dioxide from factory and power station chimneys, and of nitrous oxide from vehicle exhausts.

The commission blames climatic factors, notably the drought of 1976, for any damage, particularly to shallow rooted trees.

Croydon warrior's mosquito campaign

Mr Chris Burt's war against mosquitoes is ready to take flight.

The businessman from Croydon, south London, who says that he invented the world's first portable electronic flying insect control machines, has now designed a complete anti-insect outfit.

After suffering from recurring bouts of malaria since the war, Mr Burt was determined to find a solution to the nightmare of facing all campers, fishermen and rambles - being tormented by mosquitoes.

Yesterday, the inventor dressed for battle near his

workshops, Trub Environmental Products, in west Croydon.

The outfit included his latest invention, a leisure hat impregnated with an insect repellent to keep the face clear.

He then smeared his clothes (which must be made of a non-plastic material) with the non-toxic repellent from the jacket collar down to the canvas shoes.

"Remember to smear the cuffs of the trousers too to avoid ankle bites," Mr Burt said as he walked towards a swarm of midges in a park near-by.

Armed with two of his lightweight insect catchers, which can be plugged into any mains outlet, the man who has waged war against mosquitoes from Tehran to Norway, tested his outfit.

Not one insect landed on him.

The portable insect catchers, designed for gardens, greenhouses and caravans, and small enough to fit inside a briefcase, were developed four years ago and are exported to 39 countries.

Although diplomats in Africa, American fishermen and Swiss photographers on safari have praised his "master-executioner" mosquito machines, Mr Burt said that banks and investment companies in Britain refused to see the potential of his products. "It is the old story in Britain of bankers who are not prepared to take a gamble, so I am hunting for an American backer."

The impregnated hat, which he created three months ago, has aroused interest throughout the United States.

The former industrial photographer, who turned to inventing during a 12-month sabbatical, said a £100,000 investment would build his company into a worldwide market.

Bird watchers flock to see four rare visitors

Bird watchers from the Continent were in north Norfolk yesterday to join hundreds of British enthusiasts looking at four rare visitors on Blakeney and Cley marshes.

The main attraction was a little whimbrel, a small rusty brown curlew-like Siberian bird with a long, down-curved bill, rarely seen even on the coasts of the Pacific and whose nesting place somewhere in the Arctic has not yet been found.

It was the first time one of the whimbrels, sometimes called the Eskimo Curlew, has been seen in Norfolk and probably only the second time one has visited Britain. The little whimbrel (*numenius borealis*), an endangered species, usually migrates between Siberia and Japan.

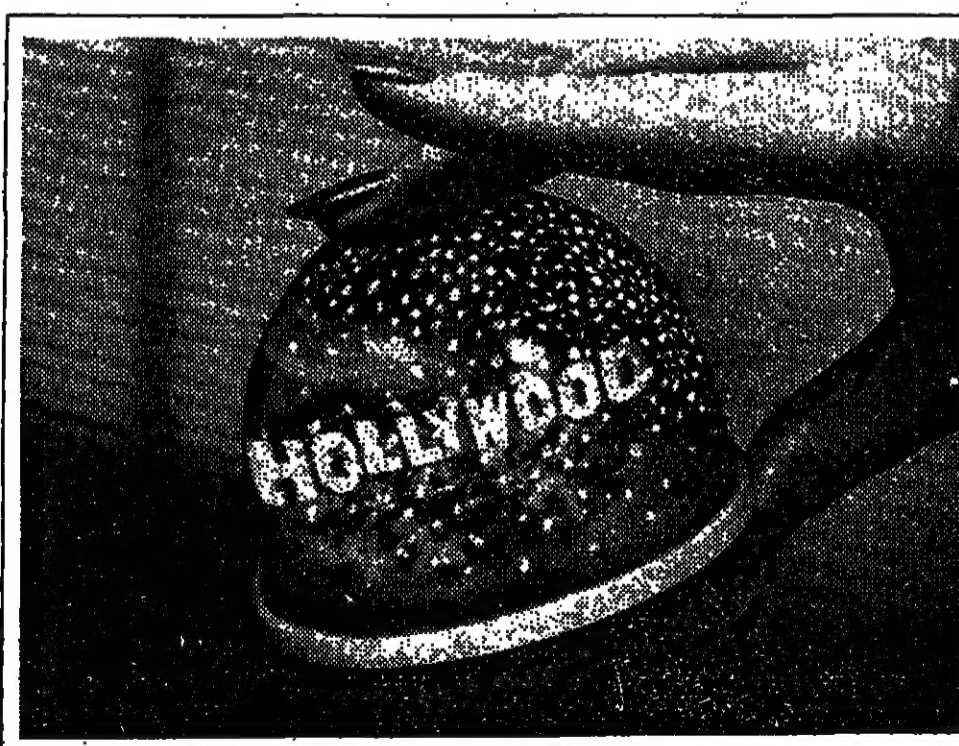
It was while bird watchers were looking for another rarity, the greater sandplover, a heavily billed, pale grey-brown wader from the shores of the Black Sea, that they found the little whimbrel.

Also seen were two North American birds, the white rumped sandpiper and the pectoral sandpiper.

Mr Bernard Bishop, Norfolk Naturalist Trust warden, said: "The little whimbrel is completely lost to east China are remote. This is true, too, of the greater sand plover."

So many bird watchers descended on the villages of Blakeney and Cley that they spent Saturday night sleeping in church porches, bus shelters, barns and on public house floors.

"When my boss got back from Los Angeles, something special happened."



"He said, 'Thank you.'"

Not for nothing is my boss known as 'Old razor mouth'.

Two weeks ago he stuck his head round the corner and barked, "Dallas/Fort Worth. Chicago. San Francisco. Los Angeles. San Diego," like the headmistress reading the register.

Since he travels a lot I should have known better than to ask, "What about them?"

He handed me a list of dates. "I leave tomorrow." It was like being given The Times and told to solve the crossword in half an hour. Errors would be punished.

The travel agent was very helpful. She sorted out an itinerary within 15 minutes; I felt a bit more confident when I handed him the tickets. All your flights are listed and your seats reserved. You're on American Airlines all the way. Just show up at Gatwick tomorrow. Your flights at 10:35.

"Wonderful," he said, exactly the way you compliment a waiter who's brought you hamburger when what you've ordered is steak.

To be honest I'd never heard of American either, but I repeated what the travel agent told me. "They're one of the biggest airlines in the world. Over 100 destinations in North America. All your flights are at what should be convenient times for your meetings. They were booked on American Airlines computerised reservation system, SABRE. If you need to rearrange anything just phone American in the city you're in, and it will be done."

He looked at the 'American Airlines' on the ticket wallet and muttered, "Gatwick, indeed"

So you'll understand why I wasn't exactly looking forward to his majesty's triumphal return this morning after a night on the plane.

But surprise, surprise. He'd brought me a present. At least I think it was a present.

"Thank you for the...ummm...thing, sir. How was the trip?"

"Fine. We'll fly American again. Now if you don't mind, we have work to do."

The old sharpness was still intact. *Miss Ruth Harris*

For information call your travel agent or American Airlines on 01-629 8817



Every day to the USA - American Airlines - Something special in the air

Private new town planned on chalk pits

By Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent

Thurrock council in Essex is likely to approve plans for a private mini new town of 5,000 houses on reclaimed chalk pits west of Grays, rather than a rival £450 million scheme covering 760 acres of green belt.

A planning application has been lodged with the council by Mr Owen Luder, a past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, for a development called Chafford Hundred.

The joint developers are Blue Circle Developments, Tunnel Holdings and West Thurrock Estate, part of the Pearson Group. This site, Thurrock Chalkpits, is between Grays and the M25.

The council is expected to give outline planning permission by next spring.

The rival scheme for Tillingham Hall was launched by Consortium Developments, Britain's 10 biggest housebuilders, in May.

Chafford Hundred will cost about £35 million over 10 years and include schools, shops and recreational facilities.

Auto crime: 1

London heads world league with £26m car thefts

Auto crime is the largest single area of serious crime in Britain today with more than 2,200 offences committed every day. As the Home Office, police and the motor industry discuss new ways to combat the thieves STEWART TENDLER, Crime Reporter, in the first of two articles looks at the size of the problem.

The essential tools of the car thief can be simple. Operating on targets worth thousands of pounds, he may require nothing more sophisticated than a centre punch and hammer, pieces of plastic or a tow truck. The investment for a thief's tool kit will however be richly repaid. Among the 250,000 vehicles stolen without trace in Britain in the past six years there are 2,440 Jaguars, 1,819 BMWs and 1,419 Mercedes. A walk along the top storey of the discreet north London garage used by Scotland Yard's stolen car squad shows the thieves' catholic taste in luxury cars. In the present collection of cars recovered by the police are two Ferraris, two Porsches, a Rolls-Royce, a large Audi and a Mercedes. The cars together are estimated to be worth £250,000. They represent the glided pinnacles of a group of cars which last year made up 27 per cent of reported serious crime in London, now considered by some police as the auto crime capital of the world, and 23 per cent of all reported serious crime in England and Wales in 1983.

Auto crime splits into three categories. These are theft from motor vehicle, unauthorized taking of a motor vehicle and theft of a motor vehicle.

The full scale of "theft from a motor vehicle" remains unknown. The police estimate that only 10 per cent of all incidents where property is taken from a car is reported and the recent British crime survey tended to support that belief.

Official figures show that last year there were nearly 500,000 reported incidents in England, Scotland and Wales. The target may well be a radio and stereo unit, parcels and luggage, which can be seen by someone prowling round the car.

The offence of "unauthorized taking" basically covers what is more popularly known as "joyriding". The miscreants are often teenagers bent of getting home, late at night, practising their driving skills or simply taking cars for brief excitement.

Many of the offences are committed on city streets where a large number of cars are left parked overnight. In London in the past five years the number of reported unauthorized taking and driving away offences has been running at an average of 52,000 a year.

The third area of auto crime is the area of greatest concern and greatest cost to the public and the authorities. If the average value of a stolen car was only £800, car thefts, in London alone would cost £26 million a year.

The thieves range from

robbers in need of a getaway car, to small-scale dealers and the international rings which trade in luxury cars sought all over the world.

In the past few years rings have been uncovered moving luxury cars from the central London streets across to Europe and on to markets in the Middle East and Australia. In some cases salesmen have been posted in London's large hotels on the lookout for possible customers among overseas visitors.

Within the domestic market one recent ring was credited with trading more than 100 stolen Minis and another sold dozens of stolen Ford Transits vans. Hire fleets have also fallen prey to the thieves. Earlier this year a gang was convicted at the Central Criminal Court of using stolen log books as part of a system of stealing 30 hired Fords in the North for sale in the Home Counties.

For the car thief operating on the streets entry to a car can be as simple as a centre punch hit against the side window, preferably a quarter light. With the

CAR CRIMES RECORDED 1980-83: England and Wales

| Year | Thief or unauthorized taking of vehicle | Theft from vehicle |
|------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1980 | 324,354 | 296,548 |
| 1981 | 322,590 | 379,548 |
| 1982 | 351,230 | 449,537 |
| 1983 | 325,899 | 424,236 |

Offences cleared up in 1983: 65,715 105,422

Luxury vehicles missing in UK 1980-July 1985

| Model | Year | Value (£) |
|--------------|-------|-----------|
| Aston Martin | 24 | 113 |
| Bentley | 22 | 164 |
| BMW | 1,819 | 273 |
| Rolls-Royce | 5 | 249 |
| Ferrari | 19 | 219 |
| Jaguar | 2,440 | 107 |

glass shattered the thief slips a hand in and opens the lock.

Nowadays gangs no longer bother to disguise their cars by putting and shutting "which meant cutting two similar cars in half and creating two new cars from joining the halves.

The thieves satisfy themselves with false papers, plates and chassis numbers. The cars often reappear in classified advertisements in newspapers. The number to ring is often obtainable only between six and eight in the evening: which means a call box. The vendor always brings the car round to the potential buyer.

Once the deal is struck the salesman disappears, leaving the new owner with a car which months later turns out to be stolen.

Tomorrow: Design against crime.

The salmon farmers' happy tale

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

Looking down from the bare brown hillsides of the Scottish Highlands to one or other of the sea inlets that indent the west coast, the observant visitor may notice a collection of pontoons moored in the lee of a cliff to protect them from the prevailing winds.

He or she may assume that they have something to do with fishing, but is unlikely to guess that they support large nets, each filled with thousands of pounds worth of salmon being fattened for market.

In spite of a difficult start and continuing criticism from some quarters, the Scottish salmon farming industry is big business. The 28 members of the Scottish Salmon Growers Association will produce this year about 4,000 tonnes, four fifths of all home supplies with a wholesale value of at least 16 million.

The fry are reared on breeding farms and kept in freshwater tanks until they become smolts, which is the stage at which in their wild state they would migrate to sea. They are then taken down to a sea loch where they are kept in



Mr Robin Brown, a fish farm supervisor, with one of his charges.

Salmon farmers have benefited from the decline in the number of wild salmon, the result mainly of excessive drift netting off the coast of north-east England.

Their success does not appear to be resisted, and from all appearances the fish are healthy and well fed, although some experts are concerned about the risk of disease epidemics that could spread to wild stocks. There are also those who say that farmed salmon does not taste like "the real thing", but the distinction is likely to be lost on many of us.

Burial halted by rubble

The burial of a widow aged 92 was halted after mourners complained that the grave resembled a building site. The Rev David Protheroe wept at the sight of rocks and boulders in and around the grave at Pant Cemetery, Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, and abandoned the burial, which took place later on Saturday.

The incident happened hours after a borough council inquiry into the town's cemeteries had been adjourned until next

month. The council promised to investigate.

Mr Hubert Jenkins, the solicitor who had represented complainants at the inquiry, was called to the cemetery. He said: "I just couldn't believe what I saw. The graveside was like a building site or quarry."

"Mourners had to stand on a sheet of corrugated steel."

The burial took place that evening after permission was given to open a war grave where the widow's husband and son are buried.



A moment of light relief for President Li Xiangnan of China as he chats with a 10-year-old boy at a Peking banquet to welcome President Agatha Barbara of Malta.

Gandhi facing huge security problem at Punjab poll

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The plaudits had hardly stopped ringing in his ears when Mr Rajiv Gandhi's grand design for settling the crisis in Punjab came under serious threat.

He had asked that there be no special celebrations to mark his 41st birthday, but the terrorists who last week assassinated Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, the moderate Sikh leader, made sure it was a day he would remember.

Even if the Indian Prime Minister was taken by surprise at the speed with which Longowal's opponents struck, he clearly knew the risk the leader of the Akali Dal had taken in reaching a settlement with Delhi four weeks before he was killed.

It is said in Delhi that after the signing, Mr Gandhi took off his bullet-proof vest and handed it to the saint with the remark that he now needed it more.

The Prime Minister could not have been surprised at the incompetence of the security forces detailed to guard the Sikh leader who was, after the President and Mr Gandhi, the most-guarded public figure in the country.

A few weeks ago, in an address to police cadets, the Prime Minister has said he

Prime Minister revealed that some of his own security staff were not using the radio sets given them.

But the Government has decided to go ahead with elections in Punjab on September 25, arguing that to postpone them would be seen as a triumph for terrorism and a weakness on the part of the Prime Minister and his administration.

Next month's elections to the Punjab state assembly and Lok Sabha (the lower house in the central parliament) will take place in an atmosphere of fear, and the security forces will have a huge task protecting several hundred candidates and the politicians from Delhi who are certain to campaign in the state.

The death of Longowal has caused a leadership crisis on the Akali Dal, which, although likely to take part in the elections, is involved in a factional battle.

Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, a Longowal confidant, was named temporary party head after the murder, but leading figures, meeting in Chandigarh on Saturday, were unable to agree on an interim successor.

● Gandhi's suspicions: The Prime Minister has said he

suspects Sikh extremists abroad were behind the assassination of Longowal (AP reports).

"It is not just the people who are immediately responsible for the assassination but those who are really behind them," he said in an interview published yesterday. "And here we have suspicions about their linkages with Sikhs in other countries."

● MADRAS: Protests flared here yesterday over India's deportation of three senior Sri Lankan Tamil separatist leaders (Reuters reports). They were named as Anton Balasingham, Chelvanayagam Chandrasekaran and N. Satiyendra.

About 15,000 people marched to a meeting in the business centre of Madras, capital of Tamil Nadu state, to listen to speeches warning Mr Gandhi of large-scale unrest if the deportation orders were not revoked.

Hundreds of policemen guarded the route of the march. Rush-hour traffic came to a halt and armed police watched as the crowd shouted such slogans as "Down with Rajiv Gandhi" and "Down with Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene" and "Down with the betrayers of Tamil Eelam."

Leading article, page 11

Rabat tries to mediate in Gadaffi row with Tunis

Rabat (Reuters, AP) - Two Moroccan envoys met the Libyan leader, Colonel Gadaffi, in Tripoli at the weekend to try to reduce tension between Libya and Tunisia over Libya's expulsion of Tunisian workers.

The Moroccan MAP news agency said Mr Ahmed Reda Guedira, King Hassan's senior political adviser, and the Foreign Minister Abdel Latif Filali, met Colonel Gadaffi after talks in Tunis with the Tunisian Prime Minister, Mr Mohamed Mzali. It gave no details of the talks.

After Libya expelled 25,000 Tunisian workers, Tunisia retaliated by expelling 283 Libyans, including diplomats, accused of spying.

Tunisia has accused Colonel Gadaffi of missing troops on its border and of threatening to use military force.

Yesterday Colonel Gadaffi received the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah according to the Libyan Jana news agency. It

said he brought the colonel a letter from Kuwait's Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad al-Adul al-Sabah. Its contents were not disclosed, and there were no details of the meeting, but diplomatic sources said the Kuwaitis were also trying to mediate.

Neither Moroccan officials nor the press have made any comment on the dispute, which has been reported only briefly in Rabat.

● TUNIS: The Libyan envoy to Tunisia yesterday said he hoped the Moroccan attempt to mediate would succeed.

Mr Abdallah Harrari claimed he did not expect Tripoli to expel Tunisian diplomats in retaliation for Tunisia's ordering out of Libyan diplomats.

Asked whether he thought Morocco's mediation would succeed, Mr Harrari said: "I hope so, but I have no details on developments."

A senior Tunisian official said that Tunisia was ready for the worst in the dispute with Libya.

Greek opposition leader forces party election

From Mario Mediano, Athens

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis has resigned the leadership of New Democracy, the conservative main opposition party in Greece, in what is seen as a surprise move to oust his critics within the party and secure re-election.

The party's 121 deputies have been summoned to an emergency meeting of the parliamentary group next Thursday to elect the new leader.

Almost a year ago it chose Mr Mitsotakis to lead the party by 71 votes against 40 for his only rival, Mr Kostas Stefanopoulos.

His dispute with Mr Stefanopoulos over the date of the next party congress, was used by Mr Mitsotakis in his letter of resignation. He said: "Clearly the difference over the party congress concealed a challenge to [my] leadership."

New Democracy, after its

defeat by the socialists in the elections on June 2, seemed ready to blame its leader and replacing him. It happened to Mr George Rallis, after the 1981 defeat, and to Mr Evangelos Averoff, after the 1984 Euro-election.

Mr Mitsotakis, who believed that, by increasing the party's overall strength from 36 to 41 per cent of the electorate in the last poll, he deserved better treatment, decided to resist this tradition.

While Mr Mitsotakis, aged 67, said he would stand again for election at Thursday's caucus, Mr Stefanopoulos, 59, accused him of provoking an "artificial crisis".

"I refuse to accept this pointless and dangerous challenge," he said, indicating he would not stand for election as leader.

Chinese pilot crashes on escape flight

Seoul (AFP) - The pilot of a Chinese military plane was asked for asylum in Taiwan after a crash-landing that broke his back and killed two people, government sources here said yesterday.

In Peking, the New China News Agency said the plane had crashed in South Korea after losing its way and appealed for the prompt return of the aircraft and its crew.

The 11-26 light bomber entered South Korean airspace on Saturday on the west coast and then crash-landed south of Seoul, apparently through lack of fuel, the Defence Ministry said.

It said the plane's navigator and a farmer at work were killed when it landed on a rice paddy. The pilot, Mr Xiao Tian-Yen, aged 33, broke his back and a third man on board, the radio operator, Mr Liu Shu-Yi, aged 36, was unhurt.

The government sources said Mr Liu had asked to return to China.

China and South Korea do not have diplomatic relations.

The NCNA said "a Chinese military plane was missing while in a training flight over the waters south-east of Qingdao yesterday afternoon."

"According to an announcement by South Korea, the plane, running out of fuel, made an emergency landing in north Cholla province of South Korea," it said.

In Taipei, a Defence Ministry spokesman said the ministry expressed "almost welcome" to the defected crew member.

He added that the country would do its best "to help fulfil his will".

Taiwan offers gold to defectors bringing planes. In 1965, Mr Lee Hsien-Pien and Mr Li Tsai-Wang received 2,000 taels of gold (£699,000) for defecting to Taiwan in an IL-28 bomber.

Kremlin keeps its propaganda edge despite spy dust furore

After a week in which tensions between the two superpowers have sharpened, Richard Owen, Moscow Correspondent, looks at the impact of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's leadership on the Soviet Union's approach to foreign affairs.

"This will not be a real summit", one veteran Soviet observer of East-West affairs said disparagingly the other day, referring to the Reagan-Gorbachev encounter in Geneva in November. "Previous summits were well prepared, and agreements were signed. This is just a meeting."

His remarks were made before the superpower atmosphere worsened with the row over Washington's allegations that the KGB used a "spy dust" to track the movements of Americans in Moscow.

Together with Soviet anger over forthcoming American tests of anti-satellite weapons, the spy dust furore underlines the Kremlin's public view that not much more than a "got acquainted" session can be expected, especially in view of the age difference - with Russia pushing forward the younger leader for a change.

"Even though the KGB uses microscopic methods and Russian's arms programme is menacing, Gorbachev still seems to have the propaganda edge", one diplomat said. "If the spy dust charge was meant to rob him of that edge it may have backfired."

But as Soviet officials return to their desks after the summit break, there are signs that the Russians do want agreement at the summit, despite the war of words. The meeting is the highlight of a busy autumn agenda.

It also includes Mr Gorbachev's visit to Paris in early October, his first trip to the West as leader, and the second encounter between Mr George

Shultz, US Secretary of State, and Mr Edward Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister. The two foreign ministers will meet at the General Assembly of the United Nations in September.

There were mixed results when they met in Helsinki at the beginning of this month, with Mr Shevardnadze's hesitant debut making as much impact as his broad Georgian smile. Western diplomats in Moscow have given a warning that that smile disguises a Kremlin line as hard as that taken for three decades by the late Mr Andrei Gromyko.

Mr Gorbachev's new diplomatic team symbolizes his attempt to root out the "Brezh-

nev generation" of conservative bureaucrats and to replace them with younger, educated men likely to present a more human face to the world.

More changes in the diplomatic, political and military structures are pending as the Gorbachev era gets into its stride, with crucial Central Committee and Supreme Soviet sessions at home as well as summits abroad.

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Shultz, US Secretary of State, and Mr Edward Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister. The two foreign ministers will meet at the General Assembly of the United Nations in September.

As the Geneva arms negotiations prepare to resume with a third round next month, hints that Moscow just might be willing to be flexible on Star Wars research (as opposed to development and testing) do the Kremlin's public image no harm at all.

Soviet officials say that if the arms talks prove fruitless, the summit, the first since 1979, will provide the disarmament process with fresh impetus, with Mr Gorbachev appearing moderate and reasonable and able to argue that an ageing and possibly unfit Mr Reagan is being obstructive and intransigent.

Recent changes in the military, including new commanders of the strategic rocket forces and of the army political directorate, give Mr Gorbachev his own links with the armed forces at a time when arms control issues are coming to a head.

However, he may come into conflict with his military commanders, on an issue which has both foreign and domestic ramifications: Afghanistan.

As the war drags on into its seventh year Soviet television is becoming a film of some of the realities of life for the estimated 115,000 Russian troops fighting the Afghan deadlock (handits).

Though some of the combat scenes look staged, and this scarcely amounts to taking the war into Soviet living rooms along the lines of the Vietnam war, the new media campaign reflects the Kremlin's anxieties as the fighting goes on with no military solution in sight, and leads strength to reports that Mr Gorbachev - perhaps

stalled by the armed forces' failure to achieve victory - might be willing to talk to Mr Reagan about a diplomatic and political settlement.

Tomorrow: Domestic shake-up



GORBACHOV'S RUSSIA Part 1

Reagan sets out goals for summit

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan, literally back in the saddle at his California ranch, said at the weekend he hoped to show Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, that the United States had no hostile intentions towards Moscow.

In outlining his goals for the summit in November, however, Mr Reagan played down the likelihood that any important agreements would be signed. He said he hoped the meeting would ease tensions, but he was uncertain of the Russians' intentions.

"There's no question that the Soviet Union has made it plain that they embarked on an expansionist programme. They believe in the oneworld communist state, the world of revolution."

Wondering whether this expansionism was prompted by Soviet suspicion of the rest of the world, the President thought he could present evidence to show the Russians "that we have no such intentions."

Mr Reagan made his remarks in a radio interview during his 23-day holiday. On Saturday he had his first horseback ride since his cancer operation last month. He arrived for his weekly radio address in boots, western shirt and riding breeches.

"Americans like cowboys, and that is the way many people think of the President," one of his advisers said. "Riding a horse is a sign that he's really back and that he's well again."

The attack on Brave Defender, which will simulate assaults by Soviet Spetsnaz commandos and assassinations in civilian disguise, came in Saturday's Pravda. The paper said the exercise was part of America's policy of drawing the West European allies into a campaign to brainwash the Western public into believing "anti-Soviet stereotypes". It did not deny that the Spetsnaz assassination and sabotage exercises.

Pravda also gave details of the American underground nuclear test in the Nevada desert on August 17, the first since Mr Gorbachev declared a moratorium of Soviet testing from August 6. The paper said its information came from "non-American sources" and that this proved a testing freeze could be verified despite Washington's assertion that only on-site inspection would be satisfactory.

The Soviet press said Washington was "throwing everything" into a campaign to discredit Russia's disarmament stance.

Tass said the spy dust charges - like earlier allegations

New Zealand takes its first steps towards nuclear ban compromise

From Richard Long, Wellington

New Zealand has taken the first steps towards a compromise on its nuclear warships ban, which has strained relations with Washington. The ban all but ended its role in the Anzus alliance with Washington and Canberra.

The move will ease the task of New Zealand's deputy Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer, who is to have talks on the issue in Washington next month with the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz. But it is likely to bring trouble at the Labour Party's annual conference next weekend.

New Zealand's Prime Minister, Mr David Lange gave the first sign of a compromise in the Anzus deadline when he told a press conference that the formula used for the entry of American military aircraft for the triad Anzus exercises last year could also be used for ship visits.

Mr Lang pointed out that when questioned at the time about the entry of 10 nuclear-capable American F16 aircraft and eight F35s for the exercise with New Zealand and Australian aircraft, he had said that

the aircraft were not nuclear-armed.

In a reference to the United States policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of nuclear weapons, Mr Lange said: "It was inconceivable that the United States would have said that, but I did. Now is a principle which could, in my view, be perfectly appropriate in the maritime situation."

Mr Lange's comment was in response to a question about whether the Nordic and Japanese formula for ship visits would provide a solution to the impasse with Washington.

It followed a meeting of his party caucus foreign affairs committee, which had considered the outline of legislation to enforce the nuclear warships ban.

At least four top-level warnings from Washington, including statements from Mr Shultz and the Defence Secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger, have emphasized that such legislation would be seen as a provocation and would lead to a review of the Anzus treaty and related commitments. Other State Department spokesmen have suggested this could mean a

separate defence treaty with Australia, excluding New Zealand.

Labour Party sources said at the weekend that Mr Lange, who would not elaborate on his remark, appeared to be trying for the "trust me" formula. Under this he would decide, presumably after top-level advice from Washington, whether ships were nuclear-armed.

But while they indicated the majority of the caucus would accept the formula, if accompanied by legislation, they doubted whether it would be backed by the party's conference.

Mr Lange tried to gain support for the "trust me" formula over the visit of the USS Buchanan earlier this year, but the party caucus, clearly believing the ship was likely to be nuclear-armed, told him they would not accept the visit.

The refusal, after New Zealand had been expecting agreement, greatly soured relations and led to the Washington reaction - cancelled Anzus defence exercises with New Zealand and a curbed flow of intelligence information.

Obote secret police protest innocence

From Richard Dowden, Kampala

They sat in a semicircle before *The Times* correspondent, who was perched on a low stool, like a 19th-century explorer in Africa.

Dressed in identical white shorts and shirts these 116 men were, until recently some of the most feared in Uganda, members of the National Security Agency, the secret police. Now they are held, without charge, in Luzira, Kampala's main prison, replacing 1,203 of their victims, who were released from the same prison after the coup.

They rejected the offer to appoint two or three of their number as spokesmen, preferring to be interviewed en masse. As individuals told their stories the rest nodded, or discredited noisily.

"We served the 13 million people of Uganda, not the

Obote regime" said one. "Our job as Nasa agents..."

"Former Nasa agents" roared the rest. "...former Nasa agents, was to gather information about politicians, DP (the opposition Democratic Party) and UPC (the ruling Uganda People's Congress), about businessmen, about each other, even about you, a journalist (peals of laughter). We have done nothing wrong."

"After the coup there was a radio announcement telling us to report to Nile Mansions. This we did. They told us to come back the following day. We did. They told us the reasons for the coup and then told us to come back the following week. Then on August 2, Radio Uganda announced that we should report to Republic House with

the tools of our trade, vehicles, radios, weapons. One hundred and twenty-seven of us reported. We were put in vehicles and driven to Luzira under military escort. The 11 women were taken to the women's prison."

They said they had been well treated and that conditions were good. But they were worried about their families and homes, many of which were attacked after the coup. Some of the other 350 Nasa officials had been killed, but others were working for the new Government.

Mr Paul Siemogerere, the Internal Affairs Minister, has said the Nasa agents will be screened.

When asked who they worked for, they chorused "Rwakasiisi".

Mr Cris Kwakasiisi, former minister of state in the President's office, did not agree with this at all. The only imprisoned minister from the former Government, he has his own room near the Nasa section, wears his own clothes and had a bag of food and personal possessions brought by his wife the previous day.

"Nasa reported strictly only to the President himself. I was not responsible," he said, but, when pressed, he admitted he was the nominal head, though "running a security organization is a little bit funny, but Nasa always had direct access to the top." Only the former internal affairs minister signed detention orders on political opponents, he said.

In a corner, slightly apart from the other Nasa prisoners,

stood a small white man with thin grey hair and a drooping moustache, dressed in shabby clothes too big for him. Mr Robert Astles, known here as Major Bob, a benchmark of Idi Amin and a Ugandan citizen, has spent six years here.

He said he was well and had chosen to live with the Nasa men, whom he described as "fine chaps". He denied reports that he had set conditions for his release. "Of course I want to get out. There's so much to be done in the country. I expect to be released shortly. I don't know why they are keeping me now."

Hampshire-born Mr Astles, aged 62, was acquitted of murder in 1981 after being extradited from Kenya, where he fled when Amin was overthrown.

Hawke wrestles with tax reform tangle

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Australians are still waiting to see what taxation reforms the Labour Government will introduce next month, in the wake of the virtual collapse of proposals in July's much raucous tax summit.

The hostile reaction to the package has left little room for manoeuvre. Large scale cuts in income tax seem impossible, and that could have a big impact on the popularity of the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke.

Mr Hawke and his Treasurer, Mr Paul Keating, had wanted to introduce a broadly based consumption tax of 12.5 per cent in return for substantial income tax cuts, together with a capital gains tax and toll on such fringe benefits as expense allowances and company cars.

In the face of almost universal opposition during the exercise in consensus democracy, all the main proposals were dropped except the least popular, mainly a and consumer items such as clothing and footwear. Even these were dropped earlier this month leaving the Government only with capital gains and fringe benefits taxes.

However, even this may cause the Government trouble as last week the taxation office began to crack down on fringe benefits and press for the inclusion of politicians' tax free benefits such as electoral allowances. A move to tax MPs' allowances would almost certainly cause a back-bench revolt.

There is considerable press-

ure from the Australian Council of Trade Unions to give what tax cuts to the lower and middle income earners. However, the Government has pointed out that the abandonment of a shift to indirect taxation means that there will now be little room for big cuts in personal tax.

The desire to carry out fundamental reform was quite simply scuttled by political pressure. Mr Hawke and Mr Keating soon realized that a broad based consumption tax would be unacceptable to the electorate and, given Australia's three-year electoral terms, if imposed there would not be enough time to recover from its effects on government popularity to win the next election.

The Budget last week was, however, greeted with enthusiasm by business and, by and large, indifference in the rest of the community. The Stock Exchange reacted calmly and, given that there were no rises in taxes or excise duties, most people considered it a "good" budget.

The Australian Chamber of Manufacturers described it as politically astute, showing a need for wage and government spending restraint and a good vote catcher for youth in the rural sector.

The Confederation of Australian Industry was enthusiastic, calling it a "responsible attempt to sustain economic growth through an increasing reliance on a viable private sector".

Computer hitch stops shuttle

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The launch of the space shuttle Discovery was postponed yesterday for the second time in 24 hours. Another attempt will be made at about noon BST on Tuesday.

The latest delay, nine minutes before lift-off, was because a back-up computer was giving readings different from those of the four main computers. The launch on Saturday was stopped five minutes before blast-off because of thunderstorms at the Kennedy space centre in Florida.

The American crew of five is to deploy communications satellites on its eight-day mission, for the American Satellite Company, the Australian Government and the United States Navy. After that it will try to revive a \$50 million communications satellite that has been lifeless in orbit since deployment by another shuttle in April.

Mr Bill Fisher and Mr James Van Hoften will try to repair the satellite by connecting an electric cable around an automatic timer, which is thought to have caused the problem.

Hughes Communications Corporation, the owners of the satellite, which is to be leased to the Navy, is to pay Nasa about \$7 million for the rescue attempt. The space agency will get about \$32 million for the launching of the three communications satellites.



Masked demonstrators breaking a bank's windows during an anti-apartheid demonstration in Frankfurt on Saturday. Police used water cannon against the protesters and made six arrests.

EEC team wants to meet Mandela

From Jonathan Braude, Brussels

The EEC team, including three Community foreign ministers, which is due to visit South Africa later this week, has demanded a meeting with Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned African National Congress leader.

The decision was taken at an emergency session of the EEC's political committee in Luxembourg this weekend, when top foreign ministry officials of the 10 member-

states and Spain and Portugal met their ambassadors to Pretoria to prepare a brief for the mission.

A statement issued later said that the mission, known as the Troika, led by the current President of the European Community, Luxembourg's Foreign Minister, M Jacques Poos, would meet a range of political, economic, religious and cultural leaders, including

the official and unofficial opposition.

The statement noted that the South African Government had not responded to EEC demands to lift the state of emergency, free Nelson Mandela and move towards the abolition of apartheid. It called on Pretoria to start an urgent dialogue with the "authentic representatives of the black population".

The uncompromising tone of the statement was partly

prompted by the hostile reaction to the Troika's visit by Third World countries.

"The statement shows that we are not just going to hush up the South African authorities", said one official later. He said that the Committee of Ambassadors of the Organization of African Unity, who have been critical, had not fully understood that the purpose of the visit was to demonstrate disapproval of apartheid.

Socialists split on poll tactics

From Our Correspondent Paris

France's Socialist Party has failed to agree on how to approach the coming general elections.

The former Agriculture Minister, M Michel Rocard, has dissented from the party's proposed election plan to be put to the party congress in October.

His decision to put forward a separate motion follows lengthy talks at an executive meeting over the weekend. M Rocard feels that there must be an analysis of errors before the socialists can fight an election.

But the party's secretary M Lionel Jospin, feels that there has been enough talk on errors and now is the time to prepare a campaign by asking what they can do to win and by reaching out to the people.

M Rocard, who resigned as Agriculture Minister over President Mitterrand's decision to change the election laws in favour of proportional representation, found he was unable to change two sections of Jospin's motion, which had been agreed by other party factions.



Chancellor Kohl (left) and President Mitterrand after agreeing on stronger defence ties.

Mitterrand's 'hot line' to Kohl

From Susan MacDonald Paris

President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl have agreed to strengthen security ties between France and West Germany and to install a direct telephone link between them to improve communications.

The statement came as the two leaders ended a four-hour talk in the south of France at

the weekend in the second of their twice-yearly meetings. There was no indication as to how security between the two countries would be strengthened, although Chancellor Kohl said it would not contradict ties with Nato and the United States.

France and West Germany still do not see eye to eye on several issues. Although President Mitterrand said it might

still be possible to construct a different version of a European defence aircraft from one basic model, there was no agreement.

France would like West Germany to appear more enthusiastic over its Eureka project, while West Germany is still considering European involvement in the American Strategic Defence Initiative proposals.

Wife pleads for release of journalist

From Robert Fisk Beirut

Apparently convinced that the Islamic Jihad movement is about to release her French journalist husband after more than three months of captivity in Lebanon, Mme Joelle Kaufmann has appealed to his kidnappers to free him at a time when Muslims are celebrating the feast of the sacrifice - Eid al-Adha - throughout the Arab world.

Mr Hussein Moussawi of Islamic Amal and Sheikh Sobhi Tufaili, one of the senior Hezbollah (Party of God) leaders in Lebanon, travelled to Iran last week specifically to discuss the case of the four Frenchmen and the seven kidnapped Americans still being held in Lebanon. Syria is urging the Iranians to use their influence to have all 11 released, although Damascus will not go so far as to endanger its relations with Tehran.

Nevertheless, Mr Ali-Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister who met the two Lebanese in Tehran, arrived in Damascus yesterday in the company of the head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards. Their deliberations over the hostages therefore coincide with appeals not just by Mme Kaufmann and her children, Gregoire and Alexandre, but by the French National Centre for Scientific Research, whose employee, M Michel Seurat, was kidnapped on May 22.

Mme Kaufmann said in a published letter to "the Lebanese People" that she and her children had come to understand the country's suffering in the months since her husband was abducted. Two French diplomats are also being held in Lebanon, as are two more journalists: Mr Alec Collett, a freelance British writer, and Mr Terry Anderson, the bureau chief of the Associated Press in Beirut.

Brazil row on economy Top finance man sacked after outburst to bankers

From Sue Branford, São Paulo

President Sarney of Brazil dismissed the Finance Ministry's secretary-general, Senhor Sebastiao Marcos Vital, after he attacked government policy at a meeting with bankers in Brasilia.

At the time of his dismissal last week, Senhor Vital was standing in for the Finance Minister, Senhor Francisco Dornelles, who was visiting Europe.

Senhor Vital is reported to have said that his ministry was exhausted by its attempt to persuade the Government to accept sound economic policies. "They are failing to respect the wishes of Senhor Tancredo Neves," he complained, referring to the extremely popular president-elect who died before taking office.

Senhor Dornelles is believed to share many of Senhor Vital's views. The dismissal is seen as a warning to Senhor Dornelles that he must back the general thrust of the Government's economic policies if he wishes to retain office.

The present economic team is divided between a Keynesian faction, headed by the Planning Minister, Senhor Joao Sayad, and a monetarist faction headed by Senhor Dornelles. Disputes are being settled by Senhor Luis Paulo Rosenberg, a presidential aide.

Senhor Rosenberg does not back the Planning Minister on all issues, but he agrees with the general line of his argument that growth of at least 5 per cent a year must be the Government's primary economic aim.

British stars blacked by Norwegian TV

Oslo (Reuters) - Norwegian television refused to broadcast a show with the British performers Cliff Richard and Shirley Bassey, in protest at their appearances in South Africa.

The state-owned broadcasting service, NRK, made the decision after unions involved in the show, which was organized by the Norwegian Red Cross, had threatened to black the concert.

The live concert went ahead at the weekend, but NRK broadcasted other material. A NRK spokesman said statements by the performers when they arrived in Oslo had been provocative.

Richard said he disagreed with South Africa's apartheid policies but would continue appearing there. Miss Bassey said she would also appear again in South Africa.

Spy scandal rocks Bonn and damages Nato security

From Michael Binyon Washington

The defection of West Germany's top counter-intelligence official to East Germany together with three suspected East German spies looks like being the most damaging spy scandal in Bonn for the past decade.

To say that the West German Government has been shaken by the defection of a senior spy-catcher is an understatement. The political effects are devastating - on Chancellor Helmut Kohl personally, on his Government, on Nato security and on Bonn's relations with its allies, in particular the United States.

Herr Hans Joachim Tiege was a department head of the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, the body with responsibility for keeping track of and catching East German agents. Ironically he was the man who unmasked

the last great spy scandal in 1974, when Ginter Guillaume, the assistant to Chancellor Willy Brandt, was found to be an East German agent. Herr Brandt promptly resigned.

But last Monday, after the disappearance of a secretary to the Economics Minister and two others now believed to be spies, Herr Tiege himself vanished. At first there were suggestions, one might even say hopes, that he had committed suicide, as it was known that he had a drink problem and had been under pressure. But on Friday morning the awful truth came out: the East German official news agency triumphantly announced that he too had defected.

It is, as officials admitted, catastrophe for West German intelligence. Herr Tiege can freely brief the efficient East German intelligence authorities and their KGB partners on exactly which of the many Soviet Bloc agents in the West

had been uncovered and which were still undetected. This alone would paralyse counter-espionage work for years to come.

Western agents in the East may not immediately be imperilled, as Herr Tiege was not directly concerned with operations outside West Germany. But few will now feel secure, and a whole new network may have to be built. Bonn has started to bring in some of its agents already.

The embarrassment to Chancellor Kohl is palpable. The hapless Christian Democratic leader will probably not resign, as Herr Brandt did. But he will have to take at least nominal responsibility for the failure of his country's intelligence network and the dangerous lapses in security. Already there have been calls for the resignation of Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Interior Minister, and Herr Walton Schreckenberger, Herr Kohl's

Chancellery aide responsible for the intelligence services.

Herr Kohl's own policy of trying to improve links with East Germany has been dealt a heavy blow, and he has admitted that relations will be strained. It looks like just one more pitfall into which the accident-prone Chancellor has stumbled.

The effect on Bonn's relations with its Western allies is also serious. Bonn has long been known as a town that cannot keep secrets, and the allies, in particular the US, have been wary about entrusting too many secrets to the West Germans.

This is bitterly resented by the Germans, who feel shut out of top Western policy decisions. But now the general suspicion in the West that sooner or later East Germany will ferret out anything told to the West Germans will be reinforced. A Nato source said that on a scale of seriousness from one to ten,

this rated as nine and a half.

Herr Carl-Dieter Spranger, the West German Deputy Interior Minister, has announced that security controls will be tightened, and rigorous checks made on the backgrounds of people in sensitive posts. But can anything really be done, with millions of people with relatives in the East and a constant stream of West German visitors across the border?

As it is, Bonn's policy of accepting East German emigrants and refugees makes it all too easy for the communists to slip a few agents in among the thousands of disaffected East Germans going West. They quickly melt into their new milieu, looking the same, sounding the same, as thoroughly German as their new neighbours. And, as the present affair shows, many communist agents wait years before starting active espionage, winning trust and allaying suspicion in the meantime.

Iraq strikes again at Kharg depot

Manama, Bahrain (AP) - Iraqi warplanes raided Kharg Island oil terminal, which handles 90 per cent of Iran's oil, for the second time in 10 days.

A Baghdad spokesman said eight 1,000-lb bombs were dropped to "impede work on extinguishing fires resulting from the previous attack". In Damascus, foreign ministers of Iran, Syria and Libya met twice at the weekend to co-ordinate policies. Syria and Libya are the only Arab countries backing Iran against Iraq.

Four hurt in hotel robbery

Brisbane (Reuters) - Two Britons and an Australian are in hospital in Brisbane after trying to prevent an armed robbery attempt at an hotel in the northern Papua New Guinea town of Lae.

The Britons, identified as David Nelson, aged 48, and Sheila Porter, aged 33, are said to be in a satisfactory condition with head and chest gunshot wounds respectively. There is no information about the Australian, Victor Enyterko, aged 33, or a fourth injured person.

Afghan links

Moscow (AP) - A deputy foreign minister, Mr Georgy Kornienko, had separate weekend talks with the foreign ministers of Pakistan and Afghanistan, both of whom are involved in UN negotiations to solve the Afghan refugee problem.

Hikers drugged

Athens (AP) - Mr Gerasimos Fotinatos, aged 32, an aerospace engineer who has admitted robbing nine hitch-hikers after drugging them with a sleeping draught, says he did it in revenge for his wife's having abandoned him.

Hudson home

Los Angeles (AFP) - Rock Hudson, aged 59, the film actor who has Aids, has returned home from the Los Angeles University medical centre, where he was admitted 26 days ago. His condition is said to be fair.

Climbers lost

Islamabad (Reuters) - Pakistan Air Force helicopters have joined a search for two British climbers, Mr Michael Harber and Mr Michael Morris, who have been missing in the Karakoram Mountains for five weeks.

Gift of deer

Peking (Reuters) - Twenty-two Pere David deer, the gift of the Marquis of Tavistock, have arrived in China 80 years after their native ancestors died out. Most will go to a game park near Peking.

Gunman held

Cairo (Reuters) - Police have shot dead one man and arrested another suspected of shooting at a police car in the suburb of Maadi, where an Israeli diplomat was murdered last week. A third man escaped.

Grip tightened

Yaounde (Reuters) - President Paul Biya of Cameroon has dropped 10 ministers in a cabinet reshuffle designed to strengthen his hold on the West African state.

Dual transplant

San Francisco (AP) - Mr Louis Bonesco, aged 51, who had a heart transplant 11 years ago, is doing well after receiving a new kidney.

Britons freed

Rabat (Reuters) - Three Britons were among 54 foreigners freed from Moroccan prisons to mark the Pope's visit.

Inside job

New York (AP) - An employee of an armoured car security company pulled a shotgun from the rack, handcuffed two co-workers, and escaped with \$US500,000 in small-denomination notes, police said.

THE ARTS

Michael Clark's independence and outrageous invention have made him the centre of a whirlwind of controversy as well as Britain's undisputed star of non-establishment dance; tomorrow his new show opens at Riverside Studios: interview by John Percival

Letting people enjoy themselves



When Michael Clark's company opens its London season at Riverside Studios tomorrow it will be three years, almost to the day, since his first professional choreography was shown there, in 1982, as a freelance career that finds him, at 23, the undisputed star of non-establishment dance in Britain. The image he presents is an extreme one: offstage, as well as on, he wears clothes by Bodymap or Leigh Bowery and trains his hair into startling shapes — just at present little bleached spikes flowering from a close-cropped dark head.

It is all carried off with complete self-consciousness, and when he talks it is both quietly and thoughtfully. Somewhere below that post-punk exterior, one may remember, lurks the sensitive boy who played a poetic, dreamy loner in a ballet built around him while studying at the Royal Ballet School.

His background takes in Scottish dancing at Aberdeen, where he was born; a child role in Scottish Ballet's *Nutcracker*; and an invitation to study ballet at their school in Glasgow; a scholarship to the Royal Ballet School, where his rebellious independent nature was not appreciated, but won him a prize for choreography; and an invitation at 17 to join Ballet Rambert, where Richard Alston at once started making roles specially for him.

To leave that for a freelance career looked rash but the gamble paid off. Besides having his own company, his choreography is in

demand by other British and French troupes. He has starred in a television documentary to be shown soon on Channel 4, and having already toured Europe he makes his American debut in October.

So far, public comment on his productions has centred on the bare backside, the artificial phalluses and the transsexual dressing more than on the dancing. But, in preparation for his latest production, Clark and his dancers arranged an intensive course in classical ballet technique with his old Royal Ballet teacher, Richard Glasstone. Why?

"Well, we had an exhausting tour and we were starting to get injuries. Concentrating on technique helps to save us from injury. Ballet is the basis of all my work; that way, if we try out something difficult we know we are not likely to wreck our careers."

Surprisingly, too, Glasstone is the first name that comes to his lips when asked about the influences on his choreography. "His classes taught me so much about continuity, timing and rhythm; also, he paid a lot of attention to the arms. Then there was Richard Alston of course, and Karole Armitage, I saw from Karole how you can achieve anything you want with courage and determination, and that amazing energy of hers."

Then Charles Atlas, who has lit, or designed some of my works and made the television programme, has been an influence too, and I learnt a lot from the films he made with

Merce Cunningham. I like to work with close friends, for designs and music too: that way you can get things started more quickly and informally.

"I work things out first on myself, alone in the studio; then I teach the material to the dancers and let them make it work for themselves on their own bodies. Matthew Hawkins is especially valuable for that. I hope to find things that will make them look good, but all the movement comes first from me."

What about the naughty bits: are they meant deliberately to shock? "Well, it's to do with the structure of a piece. There comes a time when you need to give people a kick for a change of feeling. And the hair-style? I like change. I don't want to be the same all the time, so I do it differently." What about the other dancers: does he tell them how to do their hair? "No, I couldn't. I might say to someone 'How would you feel about shaving your head?' but, if I tried to order them, they wouldn't do it." Saying that, he gives the impression that he would not want dancers in his group who were willing to be ordered about.

Presumably the rock music he often uses reflects a personal taste? "No, I don't necessarily enjoy all the music we use, but it has an energy we need, and the rhythm is pretty basic so it's easy to work against it, which is what I like to do."

When I used the Raye Introduction and Allegro (in *Hall the Classical* for Scottish Ballet), I tried

very hard to work against the rhythms there too, but then I found that the dancers seemed to slip into dancing with the music. For the new piece, the music was chosen for its association, as well as my own, with the dancers, had to fill in long questionnaires — "What was the first disc you ever bought?" and such.

"I have used speech this time, partly because Leslie Bryant has joined us and I love the way he talks, but also because it gives more variety of entertainment. I am grateful that some people have seen so much in the dancing of *Do You Me?* I did on last year's programme, and I reused some material from that in *Angel Food* for Paris, but I feel that *New Puritans*, the other half of that programme, is more what I want to do at present, and I think there is just as much dancing there, with the other elements."

"I partly redeveloped that in *HAIR* earlier this year (I knew how much new choreography I could make in the time available) and now I have replaced the rest. It has become more like a variety show. When I was a boy in Aberdeen, the school used to put on a show every year, and when we dance there on this tour I hope people will see the connection."

"I also wanted to regenerate the effect of *Hair*, where I was told people were so full of enthusiasm that they went on stage and danced with the cast. I want people to enjoy themselves."

PUBLISHING

Small is shrinking

With Paul Hamlyn's Octopus having acquired the Heinemann Group from its previous owner of less than 1,000 days, BTR, more than 50 per cent of British publishing turnover is now in the hands of as few as eight companies. The biggest three (Pearson Longman, which includes Viking, Penguin, Hamish Hamilton, Michael Joseph and Sphere; Octopus and Collins) are responsible for about 30 per cent of turnover.

The new fifth edition of *Book Publishing: An Industry Sector Overview* (Key Note Publications Ltd, £75.00) — published just before the Octopus/Heinemann merger — concludes: "The success story of the Eighties is still 'Octopus' Books. Like Penguin, Octopus is headed by someone who recognizes the need to bring publishing and book distribution up to date."

Elsewhere, the report opines that "The job of the publisher is to bring the author's 'semi-finished' product — the manuscript — to the market". I am far from certain that the majority of authors regard the manuscript they deliver to their publishers as "semi-finished", but otherwise the definition seems fine. The paragraph continues: "Most publishers and their employees, however, prefer to see themselves as participants in the creative process, as they guide book output by selecting critically from the 'unsolicited' manuscripts sent them, or by commissioning authors to write specific titles."

Thereafter the report (45 pages of facts, statistics and sensible judgements) has little to say about authors. In general, people in the book trade seem to think that the coming together of smallish publishing houses to form larger groups is likely to lead to a more efficient industry, one able to hold up its head with other, more substantial (in terms of turnover) industries, both at home and in the export markets. The exception seems to be literary agents, who have fewer manuscripts than a year ago, and publishers likely to offer lower terms than in recent years as there is less competition for most authors' favours. For example, it is believed that publishers in the Penguin Longman group are not knowingly permitted to bid against each other for specific titles.

Smaller non-aligned publishers — a more appropriate word in the context than "independent" — may be reluctant to offer at all when they know that one of the industry's Mr Bigs wants the book. An unearned advance or two can cause more than a furrowed brow to a Deutsch or a Harpall Alston & Aubrey or even a Weidenfeld & Nicolson. It is one of the conglomerates it will probably be that a drop in the ocean, a very sprat to catch a mackerel. A publisher does not acquire — or, rather, does not keep — best-selling or important authors without taking some financial risk. Even an imprint as distinguished as Jonathan Cape has to pay competitively these days to retain its authors.

The dilemma for authors is whether they are better off, or less badly off, being published by one of the conglomerates, even a previously distinguished imprint, or by one of the non-aligned. Almost inevitably, the latter will be undercapitalized for most of the time, although the future can be secured for some years at least by harnessing the occasional Getty or similar name.

The consolation, at any rate for a "serious" author, is that at a smaller house he or she is likely to have a personal editorial relationship with an editor, someone who indeed sees himself as a participant in the creative process. Authors, in practice, prefer the *idea* of brilliant, creative editors than the reality of being sent back to their desks to rewrite manuscripts.

This is not to suggest that the conglomerates, the larger houses, do not have editors. In fact they may have more, both of the commissioning and of the copy-editing kind, and they can afford to hire them. Yet in the overall publishing process editors in conglomerates are less likely to wield as much influence as they can in smaller houses. There will be innumerable marketing, sales and promotional executives and managers. The editors are likely to be outnumbered and outgunned by managers.

The larger houses can sell books better than the smaller. They have more sales managers and representatives on the road. When they visit major bookshops and wholesalers they are able to offer higher discounts if more copies are bought, and lavish promotion. In effect, this means that the big sellers — the best-sellers — sell more than they would by many thousands if they were published by the smaller houses, and the other books often fall by the wayside. A smaller, independent house (there, I've said it) may nurse its geese in the hope that they will become swans, but by the time they do the conglomerates will have their corporate cheque-books out.

E. J. Craddock

Concerts

Pittsburgh SO/
Maazel

Albert Hall/Radio 3

There can be no mistaking the sound of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, visiting the Proms for the first time and in the midst of an extended European tour, for anything other than something distinctly American. The brass section, for instance, plays with neither a roundly English nor a nasally Russian tone, nor really anything between, but makes a good, meaty and honest noise.

This orchestra also happens to play remarkably well as a single unit, as was shown in the first of their two Proms with a programme that cunningly balanced the symmetrical contrasts of Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra with the garish imaginings of Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*. Both, too, are works that happen to suit perfectly the extrovert dynamism of Lorin Maazel.

That much was obvious from the hushed, controlled opening of the first movement of the Bartók, which in retrospect seemed very much a symphonic argument, while the succeeding "Game of Couples" was distinguished not only by the immaculate contributions of the woodwind and trumpet pairs but also by the control of the side drum solos. And though there was exhilaration in plenty in the whirlwind *molto perpetuo* finale, and we duly laughed at

Shostakovich's expense in the "Interrupted Scherzo", it was the central "Elegy", with the shimmering overlappings of its nocturnal outer sections and the tragic intensity of its core, that really showed the high quality of this performance.

It was something of a parallel case, strangely enough, with the Berlioz. There the "Witches Sabbath" duly crowned the work with vividly painted colour contrasts and properly coarse playing from the E flat clarinet and the percussion, which included two handsome, heavy brass bells.

But again the opening movement, "Reverie-Passions", here presented a cogent argument before the deceptive terpsichorean elegance of "Un Bal" began to extend instinctive passion into nightmarish fantasy, while the melancholic cor anglais solo in the central "Scène aux champs" was given with a sensitivity that made one feel as though there, uniquely, one were peering straight into the composer's heart.

Stephen Pettitt

For its second Prom appearance the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra dutifully waded the American flag programming William Schuman's Symphony No 7. It turned out to be a work with qualities rather similar to this orchestra's: sturdily textured, thoroughly workmanlike but not overburdened with arresting virtuosity. Written in 1960, it gradually

unfurls into a thoroughly all-American syncretized dance finale after a distinctly sombre beginning, a curiously edgy second section and a string cantabile third section very much akin to Samuel Barber's Adagio in the growing passion of its lyricism if not in its thick, sometimes anguished harmonies. The first part, darkly coloured and slow-paced, is the most obvious place to observe two of Schuman's most notable characteristics: his quirky rhythmic sense, with many phrases tapping out distinctive asymmetrical patterns before settling down to more four-square progress; and his tendency when orchestrating to pit blocks of string sound against the various wind choruses, rather than mixing and blending.

The symphony's opening, for instance, is based on a wind chorale, jerky in momentum and gritty in harmony, over which the strings first whisper half-formed ideas, then more confidently group themselves into a rival polyphony. Meanwhile the brass have joined and enriched the chorale, and it is a considerable enriching seven horns and four trumpets are deployed with splendid effect. Indeed it is a trumpet call, stark and challenging, which first hints that the symphony is on course for a jubilant, percussion-splattered finale.

Which American orchestra touring Britain would feel its visit was complete without a performance of Dvořák's "New World" Symphony? The Pittsburghers, who had demonstrated a fine sense of ensemble earlier in Strauss's *Don Juan*, seemed far from secure in the Dvořák. Lorin Maazel's whimsical experiments, adding some rather precious touches of rubato, hardly helped the cause.

Richard Morrison

AAM/Hogwood
Barbican

This was a concert of great ambition and many a revelation, the first of which was that the so-called "Odeum" Symphony, ascribed to Mozart in the manuscript copy found in 1982, clearly cannot be by him. Sometimes it sounds like Haydn in his early maturity (particularly, I thought, the central slow movement); at other times one is reminded of the drama and the rich orchestral expertise of the Mannheims, with full use made of the woodwind and horns; while the work also has a straightforwardness about it that makes one turn one's mind to English influences, or perhaps Scandinavian, since the city where it was found is in Denmark.

All of which might not disqualify the eccentric young Mozart were it not for the sheer scale of the work. The slow movement seems far too complex a structure even for this precocious 11-year-old; and the absence of the subtle transitions characteristic even in Mozart's juvenilia engenders a further doubt.

To judge from his spoken introduction to the Academy of Ancient Music's crisp performance in their "Mostly Mozart" concert, Christopher Hogwood shares my scepticism. He seems confident about his ability to conduct Beethoven, though, and his performance of the "Eroica" Symphony has many unfamiliar things to tell. I did not and again miss the full weight of a large body of throbbing strings, but compensation as far as orchestral colouring was concerned was plenty. And how good, too, to hear the first movement of this work once again as something feverishly striving for new goals instead of floating complacently over its achievement of them.

There were occasional problems, as always, in woodwind intonation, and the brass did not hit everything cleanly, though the natural horns in the Scherzo (taken at a careful tempo) achieved wonders, and the first oboist, Frank de Bruine, shaped his solos particularly well in the funeral march. The strings, too, were admirably reliable. Earlier Timothy Brown, the Academy's principal horn, gave a brave account of Mozart's Third Horn Concerto. Though he fluffed one or two things he nevertheless managed to reveal to something of the expressive purpose of the changing tone-qualities of the valveless instrument's hand-stopped notes. A revelation indeed.

Stephen Pettitt

LSO/Shelley
Barbican

I think it was Debussy who once remarked that Mozart plays a concerto as if he were a beautifully written text that is almost impossible to play them really badly. By the same token, Mozart is probably harder than anyone else to play and indeed conduct outstandingly well; the necessary fusion of finesse and unaffectedness can be very elusive. This concert was rather stronger on the latter count than on the former.

The overture to *Le nozze di Figaro*, for instance — with which Howard Shelley began — was energetically but none too tidily played; in almost larger than-than-beethoven string section seemed inappropriate. Smaller forces were used, sensibly enough, for Salieri's Sinfonia in D, "Veneziana", a predictably accomplished piece but little more than that.

Things brightened up at once in the opening tutti of Mozart's Piano Concerto No 21 in C, K467, which Shelley directed from the keyboard. Crisp phrasing and a nicely chosen tempo meant that the first movement, which can sometimes sound wayward in its sheer abundance of ideas, never did so here, and the third movement was similarly brisk and direct. Shelley's playing was perhaps a little lacking in light and shade, but his two cadenzas were ideal, successfully avoiding unidiomatic modulations.

A large string section once again worked against the splendours of the "Jupiter" Symphony, smudging outlines in the Andante, obscuring Mozart's dazzling counterpoint in the finale, and generally upsetting the balance of wind and strings. But Shelley obtained some vigorous playing from the orchestra, and his approach to the spacious paragraphs of this amazing work was direct and purposeful.

Malcolm Hayes

Television
Soothing
banality

A safety pin, for example — then with almost overweening care he demonstrates some trivial aspect of its manufacture before asking in mock bewilderment "What does this mean?" Since this is only a rhetorical question, it is followed by a generalization so large that it might apply to anything produced within the last two hundred years.

The generally vulgar air of the proceedings was intensified by a production which, in its range of meaningless effects, rivalled an explosion in a fireworks factory: at one moment Mr Toffler was examining that pin in a Scottish



Macbeth

Lyceum

The Japanese cinema has given us the Scottish play, with great vividness. In Kurosawa's *Throne of Blood*, while the Japanese theatre has been giving it on and off for some 80 years. Guilt being the interiorization of shame, it is curious to see how the modern "shame culture" interprets the supreme guilt play, and in this Toho Company production by Yukio Ninagawa, based on a translation by Yushi Odajima, the ghost of comic opera which inevitably haunts such a contradictory focus makes frequent appearances — not least in the opening sequence where Macbeth and Banquo greet the weird sisters while mounted on scene-stealing pantomime horses.

But this is a gorgeously designed production, its predominant blacks and greys often enlivened to high theatrical effect by primary colours, as when Lady Macbeth tells her vacillating man what to do with his courage and reinforces her words by enveloping him in the blood-red lining of her silver-grey wrap; much later, a retainer will report her suicide by bringing on the same garment for him to embrace as tenderly as if it contained her still quivering body.

This is staged with the hero-villain at bay in a ring of actual candles, a device which presumably weakens for the Japanese speakers in the audience the metaphorical power of his lines. Again, in the pivotal scene where Macbeth reveals the plot against Banquo's life — that imperishable motif when he discovers the great deed within him — his thrilling imagery must surely be lost in the repeated cawing of the pre-recorded soundtrack: the only place to which the crow takes wing is the theatre's loudspeaker system.

Elsewhere, the sound of boy sopranos and orchestral music of rhapsodic character (Banquo's murder is set to a string quartet) gives credence to the notion that we are watching a staged "art-movie", an impression reinforced by the alienating use of giant translucent screens behind which much of the action takes place.

The rich profusion of visual effects, commendably, fails to swamp the two principals, Mikijiro Hira as the ranting sixteenth-century warlord and Komaki Kurichara as his vicious and at times affecting lady, though the most poignant role belongs to the cherry tree which periodically appears as if by magic to shed its blossom like snowfall; the petals linger on the stage, and also in the memory.

Martin Cropper

Jazz

Jan Garbarek
Logan Hall

The least that can be said on behalf of Jan Garbarek, the Norwegian saxophonist and composer who is one of the authentic stars of contemporary improvised music, is that he reaches into emotional areas hitherto unimagined by more conventional forms of jazz. His giant, wraith-like tone on the tenor instrument, every fibre straining for soulful projection, can remind the listener of a graveyard at midnight, or of tall ships moving silently through ice floes.

garden (Adam Smith emerged here for a moment), at the next he was on a ferry wheel describing "Second Wave" civilization, and then he was in the Reading Room of the British Library.

If there is one characteristic of our "Second Wave" civilization apparently breaking into a "Third Wave", it is the species polymathy of certain pundits who believe that width is a proper substitute for depth and who have taken the motto "Only connect" so seriously that every phenomenon is related to everything else. If I might make a tentative connection of my own; however, this relentless processing of information is only possible in a culture hypnotized by the speed and heterogeneity of television images. In that context, to employ a favourite futurist term, Mr Toffler's scholarship is the intellectual equivalent of soap opera.

Peter Ackroyd

Sometimes the enraptured tone of his music, and its painterly interest in texture, drains away all emotion, leaving only refined gestures. Last week, though, his quartet's concert was full of life and movement, perhaps the result of Garbarek's decision to focus the evening on ensemble creation at the expense of individual statements.

Wreathed in artificial echo, Garbarek's saxophones pointed the direction for the guitar of David Torn, the notoriously verbose bass of Eberhard Weber and the drums and percussion of Michael Di Pasqua. Of these, Torn most frequently caught the ear, using a small guitar synthesizer whose circuitry and pedals permitted a remarkable range of effects.

Sometimes his notes went slipping and sliding like a Nashville pedal-steel man on LSD; at others hisulations recalled the classical vocal music of India. The two combine when Garbarek's suddenly skittish soprano saxophone led the group into a sort of Ganges hoe-down, Di Pasqua providing an appropriate imitation of tabla drumming.

Richard Williams

Last week
water could have killed her

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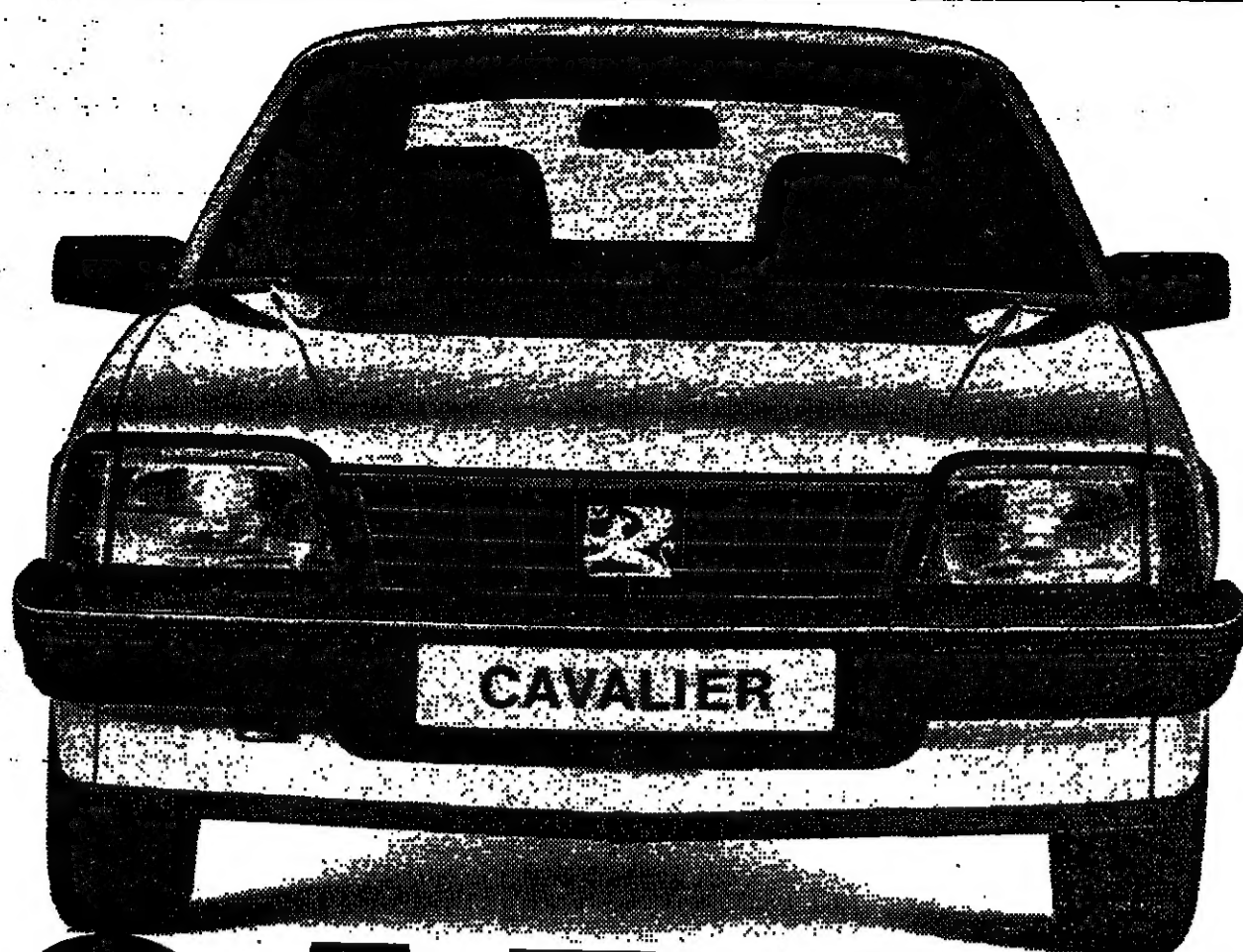
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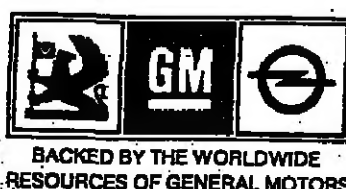
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SPECTRUM

Airports are swelled in summer by thousands of extra travellers. How do they cope?

Packaging the new jet set

Despite recent air disasters, including last week's fire at Manchester, Britain's airports have never been busier. *Times* writers report on how they handle the crush

Heathrow administrators worry that this could be the year they are finally swamped out. The fact that by April the airport looked set to exceed its supposed maximum capacity of 30 million passengers a year suggests that Heathrow is being stretched to bursting point this month, as it will be in the other peak month of September.

Until Terminal Four opens next year, lifting Heathrow's capacity to 38 million passengers, the airport is aware that it is uncomfortably exposed.

According to Mr Garry May, Heathrow's public relations manager, the airport's passengers must expect some inconvenience, like theatre-goers in the West End. "The most successful show in town means that you've got to queue, you've got no choice of seats, you can't get a drink at the bar in the interval because it's so crowded. The same is true of Heathrow. We have 73 airlines serving more than 200 destinations direct, with hourly frequencies to the major destinations in UK and Europe. Nowadays the priority of most travellers is to get where they want to, when they want to."

Visitors to the world's busiest international airport may have to fight through a crush. Will the daily supply of 16,500 cups of tea and coffee, more than 4,000 pints of beer and 2,800 sandwiches be sufficient?

The busiest day in the airport's history was Sunday, August 31, 1980, when it handled 112,880 passengers. That record could be broken with Heathrow being operated to its maximum for an extended period. There are fears over how the airport will bear up not simply whether its facilities will be adequate, but how the "front line" troops of check-in clerks and other "customer contact" staff will deal with relentless pressure.

Mr May says everyone fears a combination of unfortunate events: "An air traffic control strike abroad linked with adverse weather, for example." Events that could plunge the airport into chaos. Pushed to the limit, Heathrow operates on a knife-edge.

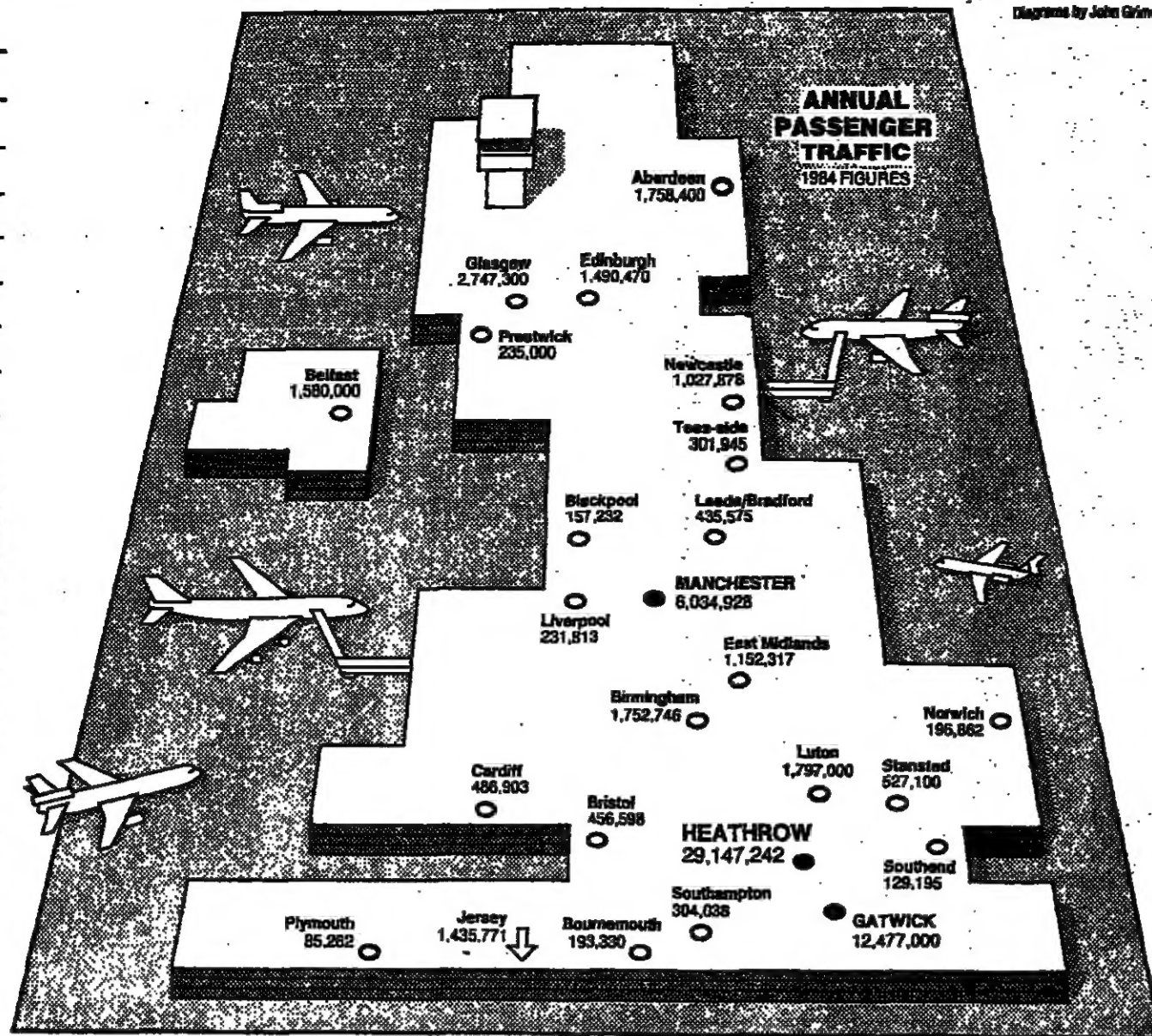
At the beginning of July, a vehicle fire in Heathrow's exit tunnel blocked outgoing traffic and restricted incoming traffic. It took more than four hours to sort out the mess. Passengers had to dash from taxis to terminals to catch flights.

Even when passenger traffic falls to the relatively low rate of 80,000 a day, more than the daily average of 30,000 meeters and greeters can turn up to cause jams which tail back through the tunnel, down the link road and on to the M4 - particularly on Sunday morning, the busiest time of the week.

Roads and car parks are clearly pressure points. The long-term car parks on the airport's perimeter road have been extended across acres of tarmac. There are more than 10,000 spaces but to meet demand the British Airports Authority (BAA) may have the vast expense of building multi-storey car parks.

Another serious pressure point is check-in. Mr Peter Owen, British Airways' deputy director of operations, says steps are being taken to ease the load. Additional staff have been hired and BA is extending the use of "queue combbers". Their function is to pick up any problems, to manage and balance queues, so that the check-in is conducted as quickly as possible.

BA is acutely conscious that passengers will be under as much pressure as staff. "For



passengers the process of arriving at an airport and checking in is very bewildering. It's probably not too strong to say they undergo a personality change. It is an extremely stressful time," Mr Owen says.

The airline has invested heavily in a "putting people first" programme, in which staff learn to place themselves in the position of customers. According to Mr Owen, it has succeeded in getting away from a traditional service industry attitude of "servile insolence". Significantly the BAA, which operates Heathrow, has also put its staff of information assistants, porters, concessionaires

and even engineers through a similar programme.

A heightened state of security in the wake of terrorism is not expected to cause any major additional problems. However, on occasions when luggage is checked on to a flight and the passenger fails to turn up the "orphan luggage" can be accounted for and security fears allayed.

Smooth running of the airport depends on keeping such delays to a minimum. Mr Mike Perry, in charge of air traffic control, says that if a delayed aircraft misses its departure "slot" such is the

pressure on the local and international system that it may be as much as two hours before it is given another.

Heathrow can manage 71 aircraft movements an hour: 34 inbound and 37 outbound. "But to achieve peak figures everything has to be right - the right mix of aircraft and the right weather conditions," Mr Perry says. Peak performance also depends on the satisfactory functioning of instrument landing systems and demands careful synchronization with the international air traffic control system.

While the controllers tackle aircraft needs, chaplains in St George's Chapel, at the base of the control tower, attempt to control another sort of traffic. Father Brian Laycock, the Catholic chaplain, conducts a daily mass, hears confession and tries to sort out many problems, which include travellers who seek reassurance and others wanting to borrow money to get home.

"People die at Heathrow - they just keel over with cardiac arrest," he says. "They rush around carrying heavy suitcases, full of anxiety." He trimmed the sanctuary light as outside the 52nd jumbo of the day landed with a squeal of tyres and a roar of reverse thrust.

Britain's rival gateway

THE NORTH

The history of Manchester Airport has been one of steady growth and development. It now handles more than six million passengers a year and is planning a second terminal at a cost of more than £100 million. Its success has been hard fought, for often in the face of apparent government indifference. But in the wake of a White Paper covering development at Stansted, the airport believes it is on the verge of expansion into an international "hub" rivaling Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Zurich.

A key element is government action on the bilateral agreements covering long-haul flights to allow more foreign carriers into Manchester without sacrificing Heathrow services in return.

Singapore Airlines waged a skilful and expensive advertising campaign to persuade Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, to allow the airline to operate from Manchester. They start a twice-weekly service in April. But the real test will come from American Airlines' application to commence a Chicago-Manchester service.

Mr Gil Thompson, the airport's chief executive, says: "Much positive mention of Manchester was made in the White Paper but we must seek control of another sort of traffic. What appears to be the Government's support."

An internal discussion document, prepared by airport planners to back the campaign for development as an international hub, says: "It will no longer be enough to describe this airport as the gateway to the north or even the better gateway to Britain." In the future our authoritative definition of ourselves should rather be a major European hub airport and the alternative gateway to Britain."

The airport, established in its present location 47 years ago, is jointly administered by Greater Manchester and Manchester City councils. It has made a profit almost every year of operation and in the last recorded figures, for 1983-84, showed a £14 million profit on a turnover of £48 million. Last year passenger traffic was up by 16 per cent and freight cargo increased by almost the same amount. It handled more than 92,000 aircraft movements.

Among regular travellers, Manchester has a reputation for friendly efficiency. The airport facilities are pleasant and rarely appear crowded. Officials at the airport are anxious to ensure that after last week's disaster and with all the intended development its reputation will not suffer.

The growth in Manchester, which began in earnest in 1978 following its designation as an international gateway has been reflected in other regional airports around the North.

The runway at Leeds-Bradford has been extended by 600 metres to 2,250 metres to cope with all large jets except Concorde, and a major programme of improvements is underway. The whole operation will cost about £23 million and officials expect the result to be a doubling of passenger traffic, currently about 435,000 a year.

At Newcastle Airport, more than £10 million is being spent on improvement to the terminal, customs hall and passenger piers. Officials predict that last year's figure of 1.24 million passengers will increase to two million by 1990. The airport currently offers seven international destinations, mainly in Europe, but there are hopes that these will be increased.

The Times reporting team: lead story by Frank Barrett, with additional reporting by Peter Davenport in the North and Suzanne Greaves in London

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A COUNTRY DIARY

Fat duck for sale, only two owners

"To market, to market, to buy a fat pig. Home again, home again, jiggy-jiggy-jig."

Little children sing it, but grown men spend silent hours pondering over the purchase of pigs - and then think better of it. At least, that's what happens down at our market.

Market is perhaps too grand a word. It may well have been, once upon a time, a thriving centre of agricultural community, but no longer. Yet at least in its twilight years it has escaped the indignity of becoming fashionable. The boys from Chelsea do not Range-Rover it down here every Wednesday afternoon. Their sardonic little eyes do not pry, their grubby bank-note-stained fingers do not turn over our cups and saucers "looking for marks".

A box of rusty chisels for £1.50

What would any of them know of real value anyway? Would they appreciate the worth of an old freezer lid or a set of sweep's brushes so worn they would never be a threat to a lavatory pan?

My first visit to market was by accident. Fresh off the London train I came across a crowd of old boys in flat caps, cardigans and funeral faces muttering to each other at the £1.50 just paid for a box of rusty chisels. "Five zinc baths," cried the auctioneer, and the old boys shuffled down the line of rubbish at their feet, carefully avoiding the lots as if they were the finest porcelain.

Zinc baths did he say? "Twenty, anybody give me twenty?" he pleaded.

"Yes, twenty!" I cried on impulse.

"Twenty pence to the gentleman over there." And on the old boys shuffled to the half-roll of barbed wire and the broken gate.

Pence? Surely not. But it was. With forty quid in my pocket, I'd got enough to buy up the whole market and still have change for a new suit and a good night out!

Since then, it's been downhill all the way. Market day has become an addiction. I'm learning the hunched stance and practised fluster, I have acquired a flat, greasy hat. Every other week it's the livestock sale as well. Only the threat of divorce has sold off the

buying of the fat pig. Jiggy-jiggy-jig. But no threat could stop me capturing the wheelbarrow of my dreams. Fondly remembering a televised *Manfield Park* which featured, in the outdoor scenes, a particularly fine oak wooden-wheeled specimen, I suddenly came upon its like, Lot 320.

I stood around for hours watching broken bicycle chains being sold (35p a time), a pig-tethering harness and a tea chest full of broken flower pots. After a vicious battle which would have done justice to the Amsterdam fine art auctions, I saved my wheelbarrow from the clutches of a chap who fancied it to fill with tulips in the spring. Vandal. Then came the meat-sale. Bidding for their brought me out in hot flushes. Again I won.

It gets confusing when the lot before yours goes unsold and is thrown in with the one you want. How else did I end up with not only a meat-safe but a chicken-brooder-lamp with a broken glass and a painting of either a Stag at Bay or Poppies in a Cornfield. It is difficult to tell which. "It's a lot of pictures for not much money," is a favourite cry of our auctioneer. We measure our art by the yard, down here.

But I will not have been truly blooded until I sell something at the market. I have to hand a pitchfork (one prong broken), five zinc baths, bought by one fool at auction and turning out to be thinner than silver-paper, and one duckling.

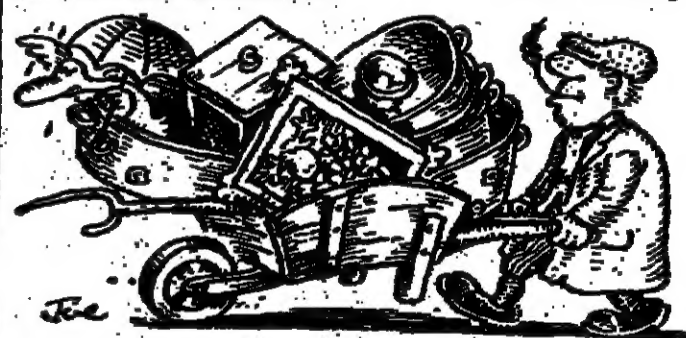
Art is measured by the yard

To all of you who have enquired of the latter's progress since I last wrote about him, Fred is putting on a pleasing amount of flesh. Technically, he has departed our bedroom and bravely sleeps in his private hut but he remains the only duck which has to be brought indoors when it rains.

Fred would fetch a good price at market and we can honestly claim two very careful owners. We would, my wife insists, have to pass on his diet sheet and bedtime routine to his new owners. And what would we sing on the way to market?

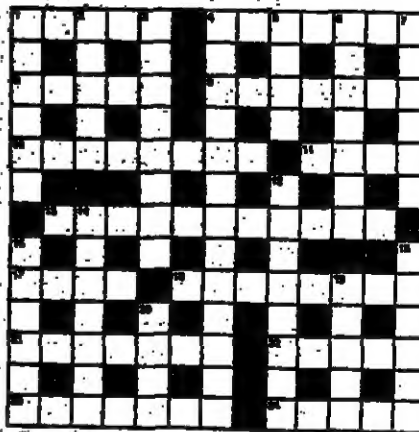
"To market, to market, to sell a fat duck. Home again, home again, jiggy-jiggy-jig."

Paul Heiney



CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 731)

- ACROSS
- 1 Lullaby (5)
 - 4 Fish rail coach (7)
 - 8 Kept (5)
 - 9 Extract (7)
 - 10 Total extent (5,3)
 - 11 Cryptograph (4)
 - 13 Wrights system (11)
 - 17 Identical (4)
 - 18 Manmade object (8)
 - 21 Copy (7)
 - 22 Supply (5)
 - 23 Shake (7)
 - 24 School leave (5)
- DOWN
- 1 Hurl (5)
 - 2 Infantile paralysis (5)
 - 3 Warm (8)
 - 4 Dominance (13)
 - 5 Scots lake (4)
 - 6 Radio telegraphy developer (7)
 - 7 Chatter (6)
 - 12 Desire (8)
 - 14 Blood sucking bat (7)
 - 15 Visual effect (6)
 - 16 Sweet (6)
 - 19 Gangway (5)
 - 20 Body part (4)



CONCISE JUMBO CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Answers to Saturday's puzzle

- ACROSS: 1 Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson 15 Cocks 16 Rodin 17 Auricle 18 Coterie 19 Fibrous 20 Release 21 Resplendent 22 At that 23 Signoria 24 Expedient 26 Aerobiosis 27 Ingenious 28 Masse 31 Unilateral declaration of war 38 Deduces 40 Organic 41 Voucher 42 Cornucopia 43 This issue 44 Piled it up 45 Einstein theory of relativity 48 Clean 49 Armistice 52 Southsayer 56 Leave open 58 Barbecue 60 Osters 62 Typographer 64 Piteous 65 Squashy 66 Ruinous 67 Uterine 68 Loire 69 Head 70 Die Meisterstinger von Nürnberg
- DOWN: 1 Recipe 2 Backbite 3 Russophobia 4 Larghetto 5 Underestimate 6 Sinology 7 Arapaho 8 Farseeing 9 Uncertain 10 Seems demonic 11 Escalopes 12 Eaten 13 Serpent 14 Need to diet 15 Dumbfound 16 Acre 17 Incognito 18 Spaghetti 19 Admonish 20 Inferno 23 Ennoble 24 Adam, style 25 At the 26 Novella 27 Preparer 29 Recusance 30 Tenement house 34 Procession 36 Institution 37 Sculptured 39 Appraisals 50 Soberness 51 Irruption 53 Trouseau 54 Yorkshire 55 Yagolav 57 Apprise 59 Extreme 61 Pyodog 63 Grove

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MONDAY PAGE

The end of the pier show?

As the curtain falls on the traditional summer show, Alan Franks looks at the new style of seaside entertainment

This should have been the best time of year to look at the state of the British summer show. The trouble is that the state of the year itself has turned the exercise into a damp and deserted tramp along the rain-lashed promenade of the tourist coasting. Deck chair canvases flapping in the squall like sheets of stage lighting, ice-cream vendors drawing up the side flaps of their vans in the late afternoon, and somewhere from inside the husk of an old theatre the shrill attempts of someone billed unaccountably as a TV celebrity.

"I was in a pub last night and it was rough. Rough? It was so rough they had a pig behind the bar as an air freshener." Dutiful, determined laughter from an audience who are officially Having A Good Time.

"Thank you ladies and gentlemen. Son takes home ugly girlfriend. Dad whispers that she's cross-eyed, toothless and bow-legged. Son: 'No need to whisper, Dad, she's deaf'."

And the older the jokes, the more densely peopled with fat landladies, dragon-teamed mothers-in-law, and standard issue Irish drunks, the better becomes The Good Time. You know the landscape very well, for it is the same one that has been painted in the summer season for year upon year, perhaps even abetted at times by the comics' own lines in self-disparagement.

Surely then, there is something false about the picture, for dinosaurs do eventually (unlike some old comedians one could name) fade away. This year there are about 400 summer shows in Britain, at a total of 70 resorts from Morecambe to Margate, Colwyn Bay to Cromer.

They range from the big name affairs such as the Freddie Starr Show at Great Yarmouth's Royalty Theatre, through the Country Music Jamboree Show (with Clinton Ford and Little Ginny) at the Hunstanton Princess, to the Maciste Gleemen at Portchaw's Grand Pavilion.

On any of these wretched days of 1985, particularly in the lesser resorts, the summer show does have the look of failure and decline not unlike the large suburban cinemas in the days just before the multi-screen era arrived. Yet the fact is that the English summer season is not so much dying as re-inventing itself in a newer, slimmer-down form to counter the hard economics of the theatre. It is what you might call Darwin's Theory of Showbiz.

This year, the major resorts with a strong tradition of summer shows, like Blackpool and Scarborough, are reporting good business, with second houses frequently running at 95 per cent or more. Of course, Scarborough has comedian Ken Dodd at the Futurist Theatre, and Blackpool has

Photomontage by Michael Bennett



Pier group: a plea to audiences from Ken Dodd (left, starring in Scarborough), Freddie Starr (appearing in Great Yarmouth) and the traditional delights of Blackpool

its famous North Pier, where Les Dennis, Vince Hill and assorted others are appearing in *Showtime 85*. The North Pier is taken by many in the business to be one of the venues whose fortunes are a fair indicator of the general health of the summer show. If that is the case, then this year augurs well for the 1,564-seat auditorium has been full to capacity every night for the second houses, and frequently for the first.

This is particularly significant, for only last year, with a better summer and the big names of Lenny Henry and David Copperfield, the houses were down, and a major long-term decline looked possible.

A smaller resort, Frinton, is also reporting consistently full houses for a split programme of *A Shot in the Dark* and *How the Other Half Loves* at the Summer Theatre. Indeed the whole state of the business looks rather more buoyant than *The Stage's* summer show expert, Peter Hopple, suggests.

"I'm afraid the state of the art is not at all good at present, and this is largely because the big stars aren't prepared to appear for whole seasons," he says. "I agree, there are probably plenty of stars about, but they're only doing one-night turns. Many of the resorts find themselves with large theatres, and not very much to put in them. My clear impression is that attendances have fallen."

"Maybe there are some places which are picking up again, but I think one has to say it's unlikely that any theatre wants to say that business is going down and down, particularly at this time of the year."

In one sense Hopple is right to say that the summer show is dead, for it is not the creature it was, 20 years ago. Then it was common for performers to play seasons of 23 weeks, twice daily plus one day per week of three shows. Today the seasons are down to five or six weeks, sometimes playing for as little as two evenings, and alternating with wrestling bills or dancing nights.

The second major change to have come over the business, gradually at the start of the recession but then rapidly over the past five years, is the scaling down of productions. Gone are the set-piece extravaganzas involving a cast of dozens, an army of stage hands and a warehouse of props. The kind of show which was, so popular in Blackpool 20 years ago would have cost about £50,000 to stage, with a cast of 40. Today the cost of mounting a similar venture has more than doubled in real terms.

For a start the top-line stars are able to command enormous wages - some are thought to be making more than £20,000 a week this year - in the certainty that it is they who are filling the houses.

The costs of transporting huge cumbersome sets by road has soared, as has the price of building them in the first place. Up too have gone the wage bills for technicians, theatre staff and musicians.

If the summer show is making a comeback, even in its reduced form, there are two main and connected reasons - the economy and the patterns of the international tourist system. By April of this year the English Tourist Board was reporting that bookings for British holidays were up by 15 per cent on 1984, and that European bookings had fallen by the same amount.

Forced to react to the lure of the package holiday abroad, the English hoteliers have spruced themselves up and are now beginning to recoup the trade.

This year, of course, that 15 per cent increase has proved to be a false dawn, for by the end of July, as the summer weather lay in ruins on the beaches and as the pound strengthened, there was a late flurry of migration to the sunspots of Spain and Greece.

The two biggest operators, Intasun and Thomson, found themselves offering a total of \$1,000 extra European holidays, swelling their flight schedules by more than 50 a week, while the British resorts drowned the sorrows in rain.

One veteran star of the summer show is Ken Dodd, who is in no doubt that next season will see another upturn in his fortunes. Sitting in the newly refurbished Crown Hotel, high above the centre of Scarborough, he seems to epitomize everything that is durable about this eccentrically English form of entertainment.

In fact, since the passing of such old stagers as Arthur Askey, Dodd is the only major artist on the seaside circuit who can trace an unbroken career back to the mid 1950s, when, as a young man of 25 he found himself playing on the same bill as Morecambe and Wise.

"Oh, they've been writing off the summer show for years," he says. "You see, the trouble is that every year the town's newspaper, in whatever resort it might be, gives the show a right old roasting, complaining about the old gags and stale routines. But I'll tell you, even the old

chestnuts like the landlady jokes, when they're properly delivered, are the best in the world."

Dodd is understandably proud of the fact that he first topped a bill in November 1954 at a tiny theatre called The Royal Court in Warrington - "it's now a supermarket, I think" - and has never had to relinquish that position since.

His belief, shared by Peter Hepple of *The Stage*, is that television has been a mixed blessing for the summer show: it may have thrown up some names which are big enough and good enough to pack them in at the seaside theatres but it has also produced some stars who are unable to make the switch from one medium to the other. "Not only are there many TV stars who don't really know how to talk to a live audience, there are the punters who say to themselves: 'Well, I can see him on TV any old night without having to fork out the 24' and so they don't bother to go along. I think this is something the managements have overlooked for a long time."

Dodd reckons that the true summer show star must be prepared to make radical alterations to his act and to his image every seven years or so. He also maintains that most of the best ones he has seen or worked with during his long career have started their professional lives as something else entirely.

"Most of them start out as tap dancers or drummers or something like that. I used to be a salesman, and I had a round, the same as I do now. Only these days, it's what I would call a laughter round, a giggle round, where you have built up a range of customers who know what you offer."

"But you can't stand still. Every seven years you have to pass a new test; you could call it the public responsibility exam. The audience gets fed up. They know you like an old friend, and like any other old friend they can get tired of you if you are always saying the same things. I have been a stand-up comic, going around the variety theatres and doing my act while they were clearing up a ventriloquist. I've been a singer, then I created the Diddymen for the kids."

Dodd's story, however, is untypical, and for every Ken Dodd there are hundreds of mediocre hopefuls: his optimism for the summer show has to be seen in that context, for he remains so popular with live audiences that he can afford to schew TV for years at a time and get on with pursuing his prime passion.

His own utopia would be a sort of Knotty Ash-by-the-Sea in which the licensing laws allow restaurants to remain open until two in the morning, rather than taking last orders at 11 pm, in which there is a scheme of apprenticeship for young comics wanting to learn their trade, and in which there is a council brave enough to build a vast solarium, advertising a guaranteed sun tan, with free sessions to compensate for bad weather and so taking a leaf out of *Costa Fortune* brochures.

He could hardly have picked a better, or rather worse year to make the plea.

Enter the real-life anti-heroine

I am worried about Royce and Mary and Sheryl, for what they want is not what they are likely to get and, worse, their preferences are being met with 'thunderous disapproval'.

Royce and Mary and Sheryl are three of the real-life anti-heroines in a book called *Smart Women Foolish Choices*, which should have carried the more explanatory title "How to forget everything you've ever been taught about being a woman". As far as accentuating the feminist and eliminating the feminine goes, it is the sort of book that would be considered somewhat over the top by mesdames Friedan, Steinem and Greer. Which makes it all the more interesting that it has been written by two men.



PENNY PERRICK

Anyway, back to Royce, Mary and Sheryl and how they went to the bad. Royce, having moved in with Gary, did something he simply couldn't tolerate: "She stopped the energetic hustle that had been her style for so long... and even planted a vegetable garden in the backyard." (My italics). Well, it wouldn't surprise you to know that this cut no ice with Gary. "This wasn't the free-spirited and ambitious woman he wanted... In short Gary felt taken in by Royce."

I am afraid that Mary behaved just as regretably. "One might after an especially passionate session of lovemaking, she shared her fantasy with Tom about quitting her work for a while. Tom was furious."

Sheryl, wouldn't you know it, came a similar cropper. She moved in with David whose income "was more than enough to support them both very comfortably. Sheryl felt confident he would endorse her plan to take some time off to find herself." Guess what? He didn't. He was "disappointed and resentful that she had lost her sense of direction and ambition and now wanted to be taken care of."

The book's advice to Royce and Mary and Sheryl is to put away their foolish fantasies about growing runner beans, having babies and attending art classes, and to concentrate on getting some social approval. So I hope that after counselling by the authors, Dr Connell Cowan and Dr Melvyn Kinder, all three girls are now doing really lovely things like standing for vice-president or making millions out of nuclear waste.

In some ways, the words of Dr Cowan and Kinder are music to my ears. I loathe gardening and love my job and if these traits start to make me irresistible to men, you will not hear me complaining.

I also go along with what some of the authors' male clients have to say, like the one who admitted: "I'm surprised how often women seem to feel that asking about my life and career is interesting. You mean isn't? You mean never again will one have to say to a man 'You're in television/computer graphics/pork scratchings. That must be so fascinating. Do tell me all about it.' You mean they think that's boring? Goody."

Yet, seen in a wider context, the Cowan/Kinder philosophy is meretricious. Why should any man ever commit himself to the sort of woman that Cowan/Kinder admire? There would be so little male/female interest in the situation that men might as well shut up with each other which, it seems, more and more of them are doing.

And if all women feel that they don't stand a chance of

having what is commonly known as a "deep and meaningful" unless they are thrusting, ambitious and dedicated to their career, what's going to happen to all those life-enhancing things that unthrusting, unambitious women have always taken care of? Nurturing children and friendships, keeping a weather-eye for the lonely and dejected. Making sure that the child in the school play is watched, the frail relative is visited. If women become too frightened to do all this because men might walk out on them, what kind of a world are we creating for ourselves?

Perhaps I am over-reacting. What Cowan/Kinder say is one thing. What Cowan/Kinder do seems to be another. For as much as there is an increasing trend among successful men to value the support and real sense of partnership that a self-sufficient and career-orientated woman provides, it is dedicated to Sara "for always being there for me".

Smart Women Foolish Choices. Published in America by Clarkson N. Potter.

House-training for beginners

What I, and every other house-hunter, need is a book on *Good Manners for Property Seekers*. How on earth does one indicate, politely in a perfect stranger, whose des no one is currently inspecting, that one would be greatly obliged if they would move a suspiciously stree wardrobe so that one can check whether it is covering a patch of bulging, spongy damp rot? Is it permissible to flush the lavatory several times to check the plumbing? Can one nose around the darker shelves for signs of mice?

I know that I can't. I enter every property on the estate agent's list as bashfully as a bride making her way to the altar. Feeling horribly intrusive, I can ask the most basic, irrelevant questions: Is the boiler gas certified? Are they intending to leave the bedroom fitters? Are the cornice mouldings original? What I'd really like to ask is whether I could stay the weekend to check that the mod cons deliver the goods, that draughts don't sneak through the sash windows and that the neighbours don't play non-stop Tina Turner on Saturday nights. But courage, talk me. It seems that most house-buying in marriage, there is a way of turning a gamble into a sure-fire bet.

Life in the day of a desert nurse

Paul Vallyely makes a tour of the refugee camps with two British nurses working among the starving in Sudan

The light is soft and the dawn air cool: this is the only time of day that the sandblown town of El Geneina is a pleasant place to be. In the thorn trees a thin chorus of desert birds begins to sing. Its litany is suddenly augmented by the chanting of the children in the Koranic school next door. It is 6 am.

Ann Delamoy-Smith, the senior Oxfam nurse in the Darfour region of Sudan, has been awake five minutes. She switches on her shortwave radio and the bare African room is invaded by the alien accents of the BBC World Service. Sarah Barnes snuggles obstinately into the bed of rope and wood which she bought in the local market along with the gaudy dress material which has become her sheets.

Ann, one of Oxfam's most experienced nurses, is soon up and dressed. She shoves a mug of coffee into Sarah's hand. "We don't often get coffee - the supplies aren't very regular in this part of the world," she says with early morning understatement. Three million starving Darfour peasants testify to the irregularity of supplies in this forsaken desert. They are as far from the Red Sea ports (and the food piled there) as they are from the Atlantic coast.

By 6.30 am they are in their Land-Rover having exchanged several volumes of good morning salutations and observations about the goodness of God with their Muslim driver, Ibrahim. Their first stop is the refugee camp at Azmeray. The rains have eased up recently and, though the sands are still as sticky as mud: flaps, by 7.30 am they are in the feeding centre watching the Sudanese relief workers loading out a pinkish grey sorghum porridge to hundreds of children sitting in long rows.

"When we first set up these centres we got up even earlier to be here at the start. Our basic job is to set up the systems and see that the local staff run them efficiently. We set very high standards because they always slip later."

"You teach by example; you walk along the lines and pick out those who aren't eating. You offer the child food and if it rejects it you inspect it. Often it is just thirsty, so you try water. It may have a raging fever, which you can treat. But most often it has the anorexia of starvation and no appetite. Then you have to force-feed it and encourage the mother to do the same."

"If a child doesn't want to eat, an African mother will just put the spoon down. You have to persist, spoon by spoon. Then, of course, the child vomits and the mother says 'told-you-so'. Then you have to start all over again. But eventually it works and then you feel fantastic."

"A lot of it is about letting the child die without fuss."

In Ethiopia, and in Sudan as well when the programmes first began, Ann and Sarah did this type of feeding for two hours solid, five times a day. Here in Darfour their job is to teach these feeding techniques and diagnostic skills to the Sudanese staff of the Islamic African Relief Agency.

"The main problem is dehydration - a lot of children die from it. It's easy to prevent and yet it's the biggest killer. Diarrhoea, fevers and chest infections all cause it and they are caused by dirty water, malnutrition and lack of per-



Angel of mercy: Sarah Barnes tries gentle persuasion to win a hungry child's confidence

sonal hygiene. There is an enormous amount which can be done just through education. "Our main problem is rush. In a hospital in London you'd feel overworked if you had five children to look after; here 50 means a quiet time."

The staff at Azmeray are now well trained and all the nurses do is troubleshoot. "We go out on the tractor to find the water or firewood when it hasn't come. It's good for the tractor man to know what he does fits into the general scheme of things."

Today's problem is in the kitchen where staff who cook the porridge in huge oil drums are worried that they are shedding rust into the children's food. "Scrub it with wire wool and if that doesn't work we'll sort out something on our next visit," says Ann.

Tasks are handed out. "Now remember about the firewood, the kitchens can't work without it," says Sarah from the seat of the Land-Rover as they prepare to leave Azmeray.

"I will do it, inshallah," says the smiling woodman. *Inshallah* means, in literal terms, "if God wills it"; in practice it often means "if I get round to it". "No, not inshallah," says the

nurse with a look of mock ferocity. "Definitely. One hundred per cent. One hundred per cent - inshallah," replies the smiling, after the vehicle has begun to move. The nurses laugh.

At the camp's next feeding centre they concentrate on seeing that the children wash properly before eating. Ann helps with the water supply. Sarah wanders through the queue.

"You get to know them; of course. Not by name, but you recognize them by their clothes. There's one here we call the caterpillar because he wears a striped babygro sent out from England. I have my favourite babies that I have special cuddles with."

But if there is room for affection there is none for sentiment. Nearby is a clinic run by the German Emergency Doctors. The different phobias of the two groups cause tensions. Three of the Germans are gathered around a stretcher bed which holds a painfully thin child. They are trying, without success, to find a vein which has not collapsed in the child's body so that they can insert an

intravenous drip to replace the lost body fluids.

Ann leaves their clinic with scarcely-disguised exasperation. "This is ludicrous. That child will be dead by tomorrow anyway. These people think they are still in Europe. All that nonsense about intensive care while they ignore the 30 children outside who could be saved." In Africa today, succour sometimes seems as much

about death as life. Sarah's views have been moulded by working in Thailand, Nepal and Ethiopia. "We often see children who aren't going to make it. A lot of it is about letting the child die without fuss. Often you are working hard and a mother will ask you to stop; she will take the tube out of the child's nose and close its eyes. Then you have to think what is best for these people and not save your conscience with aggressive treatment."

The child dies. Death is followed by lunch in the straw-fenced compound of one of the

Sudanese workers. A liver is cut from a newly-killed sheep and fried. A tin of tuna is mixed with local lentils. Tomatoes and onions from the local market are chopped together. The nurses and their driver eat with half a dozen locals before leaving for the next feeding programme, two hours' drive away, at Kereneh.

It is 7 pm before the Oxfam team regains its little bungalow after a brief stop in the market place for food. Sarah buys six eggs individually from different traders and a few tomatoes. Back home there are tinned sardines and a tub of local halva, the sweetened residue of sesame seeds crushed to extract the oil.

It is too late and too dark for their usual bath (a bucket emptied over the head), so they eat straight away.

Over supper they talk of the situation which is deteriorating throughout Darfour. "Just as people warned it would," says Ann glumly. The mood is despondent rather than despairing. "It's not got to the stage where we're wasting our time, so long as there's even a bit of food we can do something."

The weather breaks. Flashes of sheet lightning illuminate the sky and fearsome wind, a haboob, rattles through the little house scattering papers. The air fills with sand.

"The haboobs are the things that really get me down here," says Sarah. "Sand gets everywhere. Everything you eat, everything you drink has sand in it. You begin to sweat a lot and it pours off you in rivulets of mud. That's what I hate most, that and the flies."

Before sleep she listens to a Sony Walkman and writes to her husband, Simon. She is 25 and they have been married for two and a half years, during which she has seen him for only two weeks every three months.

"He's a mature student, doing his Part IIs in law. He's a kept man, he doesn't get a grant, we live off my salary," she laughs. "I write to him every night. After his exams he's coming out here to visit. I shall try to find something useful for him to do."

As 11 pm approaches she is in bed, reading the last few pages of *The General* by C. S. Forester. "What is it about? I'll tell you one thing, it's not about Africa. You need a bit of an antidote," she says and blows out the lamp.

NEW INTEREST RATES FOR C&G INVESTORS

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| Cheltenham Gold Account | Interest Paid | Net % | Compounded Annual Rate %† | Gross Equivalent CAR %‡ |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| \$20,000 or more | Annually | 9.50 | 9.50 | 13.57 |
| \$500 - \$19,999 | Annually | 9.00 | 9.00 | 12.86 |
| \$1 - \$499 | Annually | 7.00 | 7.00 | 10.00 |
| Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account | | | | |
| \$20,000 or more | Monthly | 9.11 | 9.50 | 13.57 |
| \$5,000 - \$19,999 | Monthly | 8.65 | 9.00 | 12.86 |
| Savings Builder Junior Account Deposit Account | | | | |
| | Half Yearly | 8.00 | | 11.43 |
| | Half Yearly | 7.00 | | 10.00 |
| | Annually | 6.75 | | 9.64 |

The rate of interest paid on all other existing accounts on which composite rate tax is paid by the Society will be reduced by 1.25% from 1st September 1985. Limited company and other deposits subject to basic rate tax will be reduced by 1.25%.

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A HARD HARVEST

The way the weather has been coming is a torment to farmers, but at least it is doing something for their public relations. Set now beside that popular image of harvest home - brimming grain wagons trundling into intervention to the ironic cheers of urban eater-taxpayers - is the photograph of Farmer Giles, of doubtful countenance, kneeling in gulf boots amid his winter wheat that is stretched, diseased and sprouting. There are fewer fulminations against the black ash of straw burning now that it seems they will be lucky if they can put a match to the stuff at all. As for ecological panic about the disappearance of England's wetlands, there suddenly seems to be nothing else under foot.

The truth is visible once again that there is more in farming than a feather bed. Not that the cereal harvest is yet to be written off as a failure. It is still fairly early in the harvest season, at least by an older reckoning. Some farmers have been pleasantly surprised by the quality of the grain they have managed to garner in. Machinery well capable of lifting lodged crops is ready to go, given any kind of dry interlude. But it will be a costly harvest to save, and the bumper crop of it, indicated earlier by larger acreages and higher yields, may be knocked off. If that is how it is in France and Germany as well, so much the better for the solvency of the Common Agricultural Policy.

If criticism could kill, the CAP would be dead by now. Among the latest shafts to pierce the target is one from the Comptroller and Auditor General, who casts the cold eye of accountancy over it, and another from the Institute of Economic Affairs which has rounded up seven German professors in the current issue of its journal who take a joint swipe at the CAP with few academic inhibitions. They are evidently not to be held responsible for their country's agricultural minister. He it was who played a lone hand in the Council of Ministers this year to block an excessive a proposed reduction in the cereal guarantee so modest that it did not even achieve what the CAP's own rules required. So much for reform.

The auditor general's first criticism is a professional one: that the objectives of the CAP are various and likely to conflict, and because they are not expressed in terms of criteria or quantified targets, the policy does not lend itself to evaluation of its effectiveness. Nevertheless

he manages to make a comparison of the CAP's achievements with its costs.

The achievements are large increases in agricultural output, yields and labour productivity; farm incomes in the U.K. initially falling but in the present decade improving; similarly to those outside agriculture, though with wide regional and sectoral variations; supplies assured; and the real price of food falling significantly since 1979, "albeit often above world market prices".

The costs have been heavy. Production in excess of domestic requirements has yielded mounting structural surpluses in nearly all the main commodities that cannot be sold without the application of large export subsidies. These transactions depress and distort world markets and are liable to provoke retaliatory measures from the Community's trading partners, notably the United States. The cost of guarantees, and of storing and disposing of the surpluses represents "a significant transfer of resources from the consumer and taxpayer to the producer, which has served to stimulate the agricultural sector at the expense of other sectors of the European economy".

The German professors also rehearse these objections and underline others. They emphasize the adverse effect the protection-cum-dumping mechanism of the CAP has on developing countries. They assert that in the Community as a whole food costs 25 per cent more than its world price. (The auditor general could find no systematic calculation of that kind later than 1980 when the ministry put food prices in the United Kingdom at 8-10 per cent higher than if subject to world market forces.) They also bring out how much of the cost of the CAP leaks away into the expenses of administration - as it does into inflated land prices, though that is beginning to correct itself.

The auditor general recommends improvements in cost-effectiveness by sharpening up the definition of the CAP's objectives, and by disentangling its market-stabilizing support for production on an economic basis from its social or political support for rural communities burdened with uneconomic holdings or enterprises.

The professors would send in the bulldozers, clearing away by degrees levies, guarantees, subsidies, the lot, making way for the bracing regime of free trade

in agricultural products. This might not be too terrifying at least for the more efficient cereal farmers. In Britain and France they are growing wheat as cheaply as farmers in the United States, where inputs are half as much but so are yields.

World markets in agricultural products, however, are anything but pure. It is not a question of the Community joining in the benefits of a world-wide free market there for the taking. A free market would have to be created and made secure first, if European farming were not to go down in exemplary ruin.

And another point. Current European competitiveness with the American prairies has as much to do with movements of the exchange rate as it has with the relative efforts or skills of the producers. To expose agriculture to the full effect of the gyrations of currencies, as it is already exposed to the full effect of the weather, would be to add significantly to the elements in his business over which the farmer has no control. A price would be paid for that in respect of confidence, investment and the adoption of long views in the industry.

Almost everyone agrees that the Community's agricultural regime cannot be allowed to remain as it now stands. There is less agreement about the direction in which it should be moved, and less still about the measures required to move it - though the price mechanism is surely to be preferred to any further juggling with quotas and their concomitants, bureaucracy and inflexibility and fraud.

This much perhaps is also common ground: in getting from here to wherever it is to be, those engaged in the industry should be afforded reasonable time and given a modicum of assistance in making the necessary adaptation or effecting the necessary exit, sufficient for the avoidance of widespread depression in the countryside.

It would be a pity to add rural slums to inner-city decay even in the cause of national efficiency. The other limb of criticism of the CAP, other than is than criticism arising from its cost and structural surpluses, is that it creates pressures deleterious to the conservation of the countryside, its flora and fauna, its appearance, its historical landmarks, and its amenity. With the financially hardpressed farmer some of these considerations go by the board. Depression, no less than productivity-powered affluence, is a cause of rural degeneration.

CLOSER TO CIVIL WAR

The second round of peace talks to settle the deeply entrenched communal rift in Sri Lanka collapsed in discord last week. It had been expected that they would provide the framework for a resolution of the Sinhalese-Tamil conflict. Instead they became lost in the cavernous divide that separates the two sides.

Worse still, with the entailed embarrassment of the Indian government, which had sponsored the talks, the best remaining hope of resolution has faded. Now Sri Lanka is not just back to square one but very possibly on the brink of civil war.

The primary responsibility for this outcome rests with the authorities in Colombo. At the June summit between Sri Lanka's President Jayawardene and Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, which laid the foundations for the three-months ceasefire and the Bhutan negotiations, the Sri Lankans appeared to be willing to accept reality and make meaningful concessions to the Tamils. It was understood that these would include a substantial devolution of power. In turn the Indians cajoled the Tamil guerrillas, based in South India, into forsaking their demand for an independent Eelam.

Yet when the two sides met in Thimpu for their first set of talks the Sri Lankan team failed to match that expectation. The peace process was saved by an adjournment and by the time the

second round began earlier this month, the Indians had secured reconfirmation from President Jayawardene of his willingness to compromise. Indeed, on this occasion the president even went on record claiming that he was confident of "good results". But, back at the negotiation table, his delegation once again had little to offer, and as tensions on the island flared up with the massacre at Vavuniya, the Tamil delegates walked out of the talks.

The Tamils, it is believed, would have settled for control of finance, education and law and order. Certainly Mr Rajiv Gandhi had repeatedly and publicly committed himself to supporting no more than the sort of devolution given to the States in India, which he explained, was "considerably less than the American federal system". If President Jayawardene had offered as much Mr Gandhi could have seen to its acceptance. But the Sri Lankan president was unable to defy his own right wing and the Buddhist clergy, both of whom have refused to countenance any real devolution of power. Consequently, all that was offered was a repackaged version of the district council scheme already rejected by the Tamils in 1984. In the circumstances it was bound to be unacceptable.

For their part the Tamil guerrillas did not assist a solution by formally tabling what they called a "liberation charter". In it they demanded from

President Jayawardene recognition of a distinct Tamil nationality, of a Tamil homeland and of their right to self-determination. On the face of it, these claims contradicted any willingness to compromise.

Yet while the peace process was on the Indian government could have reined in Tamil demands. With its collapse India's capacity and perhaps its willingness to do so could now be in doubt. With a fifty-million strong Tamil population of his own to consider, at best wary of Mr Gandhi's pressure tactics, he cannot easily repeat his strategy even if Colombo has a sincere and convincing change of heart. Perhaps this is why he has chosen instead to expel some of the more belligerent guerrilla leaders. It may be a way of putting fresh pressure on the Tamils to make their own concessions, but that is unlikely. Instead, it would suggest that Mr Gandhi is washing his hands of the problem.

This leaves the Sri Lankan government to face the Tamil guerrillas on its own. Already the island is effectively split between an embittered Tamil north and east and an unrelenting Sinhalese south and centre. The present flood of refugees towards the areas where their respective communities dominate will further exacerbate this divide. And with the guerrillas having called off the ceasefire, the possibility advances of protracted and bloody civil war.

MEP pay and pensions

From the Head of the London Office of the European Parliament

Sir, The Home Office memorandum on "pay, pensions and taxation of members of the European Parliament", submitted to the House of Commons Select Committee on European Legislation, appears muddled.

First of all, it considers MEPs to be "state representatives", which is constitutionally questionable. By analogy, are members of the House of Commons county, borough or city representatives elected by electorates assembled in independently-determined constituencies?

Secondly, the Home Office memorandum refers to "state representatives in any other forum", which in the context appears to

imply that members of the House of Commons who sit in the Council of Europe, Western European Union and North Atlantic assemblies are "state representatives". Do the members of that house share this view?

Thirdly, the memorandum rightly states that members of the European Parliament are "no more Community servants than members of a national Parliament are civil servants".

Significantly, the memorandum makes no reference to the judges of the European Community's Court of Justice, who are certainly not "state representatives". Nor are they civil servants any more than members of the British judiciary would accept such a classification. Yet members of the court, irrespective of nationality, are paid and taxed under Community provisions.

Members of the European Parliament are thus in a quite separate category, for they are not nominated by member governments (unlike members of the European Commission, Court of Justice and Court of Auditors), they are not real state representatives (i.e. national government ministers and officials sitting in the Council of Ministers), and they are not Community or national civil servants.

The Government argues that MEPs "tax status should be the same as the people they represent", but such a case should be based on its own merits and not on confused analysis or false parallels.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER BROAD,
Head of London Office,
European Parliament,
1 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
August 16.

Prison population rates compared

From the Governor of Durham Prison

Sir, Peter Evans reports (August 20) the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders as saying that "More people go to prison in the United Kingdom than in our West European countries". What he failed to make clear is whether Nacro's figures refer to actual rates of imprisonment (i.e. numbers per year) or simply the total number held in prison.

There is no dispute that the United Kingdom has a higher total prison population than other West European countries, both in terms of absolute numbers and in proportion to the national population. However, these figures can disguise the fact that high total populations are not necessarily the result of high rates of imprisonment. Catherine Fitzmaurice and Ken Pease, in research published in *Justice of the Peace* (September 18, 1982), "Prison Sentences and Population: A Comparison of Some European Countries", demonstrated that, in England and Wales at least, the prison population problem has less to do with the number of people who are received into custody than the sentence length given to those received. For example, they showed that we imprison fewer of our citizens than the Netherlands and Sweden, but because we imprison them for much longer our prison population is proportionately much higher.

In the face of the continuing rise in the prison population this is clearly an important factor which needs to be considered in discussion of the problem by Nacro or any other organization. It also casts doubt upon the long-term effectiveness of Andrew Rutherford's exhortation (feature, August 20) to follow Winston's lead.

Whilst a reduction in the number imprisoned for petty offences would certainly assist the problem, its ultimate resolution will also need to incorporate serious consideration of the high average sentence length in England and Wales.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR PAPPS, Governor,
HM Prison,
Old Elvet,
Durham,
August 21.

Roman cookery

From Mr J. E. Dussek

Sir, It seems unreasonable that your book reviewer's personal gustatory and olfactory sensitivities should be allowed to weigh so heavily that Apicius's Roman Cookery Book is dismissed in such a facile way.

Not many, if any, cookery books have been as constant since the first century AD (as this one has) and were Mr Howard to put aside his prejudices and try some of the recipes, he would find them startlingly refreshing.

He should try, for example, sea crayfish cooked in a sauce of cumey, parsley, mint, pepper, lovage, honey, vinegar and of course garum, or perhaps he would enjoy fish rolled in ground salt and coriander seed, then stewed in its own juice.

And why such a fuss about garum? It can still be bought in England, and is easily found in Oriental food shops, only it is now called fish sauce or *Nuoc mam nh*. Certainly it smells vile in the bottle, but after cooking it is like any other strong fish stock.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. DUSSEK,
Tebolds,
The Street,
Flaxton,
Sevenoaks,
Kent,
August 13.

Letter from a Queen

From Mr Richard Tolson

Sir, The "point of etiquette" alluded to by John Cobbett in his footnote to the political writings of William Cobbett (letter, August 22) was described by Charles Greville - not yet Clerk of the Council in Ordinary - thus:

"The Queen's letter was brought to the King whilst he was at dinner (at the Cottage). He said 'Tell the Queen's messenger that the King can receive no communication from her except through the hands of his Ministers'. Embassy was present, and said he did this with extraordinary dignity."

The date of this entry in Greville's journal is July 14, 1820.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD TOLSON,
94 Talbot Road,
Highgate, N6,
August 22.

A new Blue Ribband

From the Director of the British Maritime League

Sir, Last week we were all stimulated by Richard Branson's abortive attempt on the fastest eastbound crossing of the Atlantic, then momentarily anxious for him and his crew, finally disappointed that the boat was lost.

But was that loss the sea's warning not to take its moods and power for granted? Joseph Conrad was quite clear: "I have known the sea too long to believe in its respect for decency," so was Prince Bernhard's statement that "fear of the sea is the beginning of maritime wisdom."

BBC's excellent documentary on Sunday showed what thin shoestrings held the project together. Good communications, precision position-fixing and personal guts and discipline avoided a disaster, but a minor change in weather or a more remote point of sinking could have overwhelmed those advantages, and maybe also the search and rescue services, themselves too placed at great risk.

The United States, 53,329 GRT, 37th ship to hold the Blue Ribband eastbound (35th westbound), carried

Safety questions in aircraft crashes

From Mr Alastair Macleod

Sir, The Manchester disaster must once again focus the minds of the travelling public and of the Civil Aviation Authority to the problems in evacuating an aircraft in an emergency.

The CAA must make an urgent reappraisal of the 90-second evacuation rule. This test should be carried out in a smoke-filled cabin where visibility is near zero. Legislation to require cabin floor gangways to have emergency illumination, to assist in a smoke-filled evacuation should be introduced without delay.

Such an appraisal may result in additional emergency exits being needed in high-density aircraft which are used for inclusive tour traffic.

British Airways recently received permission from the CAA to block off two over-wing emergency exits on its 747 jumbos to allow additional passengers to be carried. In the light of recent events it would be a responsible gesture for British Airways to shelve such plans until the evacuation question has been thoroughly debated. American Airlines have, in the interests of safety, decided not to close off these exits on their 747s.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR MACLEOD,
2 Pine Tree Close,
Cove,
Isle of Wight,
August 23.

From Dr Roderick A. Smith

Sir, The Press has recently carried much speculation about the cause of the JAL 747 disaster. Several theories centre round structural failure of the tail and rear bulkhead areas, possibly caused by fatigue.

It is clear that many reporters, including your own, think that fatigue is some form of "disease" in metals. Since the problem first came to light over 130 years ago, in the axles of early railway locomotives, much research has been conducted which has elucidated the nature of fatigue.

We now know that fluctuating loads cause a crack to form and grow at an ever-increasing rate until it eventually breaks the component in which it is situated. Because of the nature of this accelerating growth rate, these cracks can be exceedingly small in length for a large percentage of the component life, and remain of "hairline" width until just before failure.

I have many examples in my laboratory of components containing cracks many millimetres long which are invisible to the naked eye.

Neglected composers

From Mr Paul Podro

Sir, Although the intellectual snobbery which Simon Heffer complains of (feature, August 10) is not only directed at British composers, it is nevertheless incredible that the greatest British piano concerto, Beethoven's Fourth, and Rubinstein's sublime Fourth and Ninth symphonies are unknown to Prom audiences.

Then there is the case of William Wordsworth, for whose stature see the new *Oxford Dictionary of Music* and who is surely the most unjustifiably neglected living British composer. Of his major creative output, the seven symphonies, two are awaiting their first broadcast and most of the others have not been broadcast for about thirty years!

Since Mr Robert Ponsbury and his predecessor, Sir William Glock,

even though the observer is directed exactly where to look when the crack position has been identified by more sophisticated methods.

It was therefore unwise (The Times, August 20) of a British Airways official to react angrily to the suggestion that visual inspection of a large and complex component such as an aircraft bulkhead might not be sufficient. To say, "Our engineers know what they are looking for", is simply not good enough. The problem is to find what they are looking for.

On a different but related point, even on August 21, when you published the flippant letter from Dr Hughes joking about smokers being allocated "safe" rear seats on aircraft, I thought you were both shortsighted and acting in poor taste. I am now listening to the shocking news from Manchester - my views sadly, are confirmed.

Yours sincerely,
RODERICK A. SMITH,
University Engineering Department,
Trumpington Street,
Cambridge,
August 22.

From Mr C. H. H. Lawton

Sir, As someone who has travelled to Lisbon in British Airways Boeing 737 aircraft frequently over the past few months, I have first-hand experience of the appallingly cramped seating arrangements. This compares most unfavourably with the seating in identical aircraft operated on the same route by TAP, the Portuguese airline, where there is a reasonable allowance of footspace between the rows.

While closely coupled seating has no bearing on the cause of the recent accident, lack of mobility within the cabin may explain the failure of so many people to escape and the trampling of bodies which apparently took place.

On the BBC television news last night it was reported that the seating in the British Airways version of the aircraft is of an even higher density than normal British Airways flights and, while this may be justified on the grounds of profitability, I believe it is irresponsible from the point of view of air safety.

May I, therefore, suggest that the Government's investigation into the cause of the disaster, promised by Mrs Thatcher yesterday, also examines closely the questions of seat density, aisle width, hand luggage stowage and the adequacy of the exit routes.

Yours faithfully,
C. H. H. LAWTON,
26 Abington Villas, W8,
August 23.

took us kicking and screaming into one part of the 20th century and unobtrusively ejected us from another part, the prevailing ethos at the BBC has been dominated by the spurious theory of a 20th century mainstream. This automatically excludes most of the names on Mr Heffer's list of neglected composers.

Unfortunately his plea to the new Controller of Music is likely to fall on stony ground. Mr John Drummond is already on record as saying that on the touchy subject of contemporary music he is likely to follow his predecessors.

Until some way is found of diminishing the power of the most influential musical executive in the world, both Prom and BBC audiences will continue to receive a blinkered view of British music.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL PODRO,
103 Cheyne Avenue,
Edgware, Middlesex.

Britain and Unesco

From Mr Cecil R. Evans

Sir, I write as one of the "dreamers" in relation to the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) mentioned in your strangely intemperate leading article. "Seeing through the dream" (August 15).

As you say, the question of Britain's membership of Unesco requires a "cold eye". Such an eye is indeed being applied to the organization. Mr William Dodd, UK representative on the agency's 51-strong executive board, has reported that organization and reforms are under way, with plans for implementing 117 proposed changes in procedure.

Unesco needs reform. Of that there can be little doubt. Amid the plethora of criticism, however, the positive and solid achievements of the agency must not be forgotten. It undertakes varied and invaluable work in hundreds of countries. It has brought literacy to more than 15 million adults and children deprived

of a conventional education. In a single year it trained 30,000 teachers. It channels £30 million a year to major scientific programmes, such as the International Hydrological Programme on Man and the Biosphere.

In financial terms, Britain gets as much if not more out of Unesco as it puts in. Our annual contribution is £4 million but our financial and other benefits far exceed this.

The agency needs the continued membership of the United Kingdom, which did so much to help launch it in its early days and provided its first Director-General, Dr Julian Huxley. By doing so, it can help promote the process of reform from within the organization. Withdrawal would have the effect of diminishing our credibility and influence in the international community.

Yours sincerely,
CECIL R. EVANS,
Chase End,
37 Long Grove,
Seer Green,
Nr. Beaconsfield,
Buckinghamshire.

ditions? If so, my conditions would include:

1. High speed (of course greater than the Blue Ribband liners).
2. Self-sufficiency in fuel for the crossing (no stops in transit).
3. A genuine payload for some commercial or naval purpose.
4. Good seakeeping, a comfortable ride at speed, up to sea state 6 or 7.
5. Safety and seaworthiness in all weathers ("A small leak will sink a great ship").
6. Minimum cost.

Lady Houston and the Schneider Trophy led to the incomparable Spitfire. The America's Cup, once the rules changed to allow smaller yachts, has spawned many new ideas that have found wider application. Why not redeploy the Hales trophy, preferably helped by some wealthy sponsor, to stimulate other sectors of the free world's vital maritime capabilities?

That should attract Richard Branson and Ted Troman, but please not to build another toy. "He who is shipwrecked the second time cannot lay the blame on Neptune."

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RANKEN, Director,
The British Maritime League,
19 Bevis Marks, EC3,
August 21.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 26 1931

In July 1931 the Moy committee report on the economy was published. Later also it recommended the two Labour members dissenting) meeting a £170m deficit by an increase in taxation and a cut of 20 per cent in unemployment (then running at 2.78m) relief. There was a fear in Britain that the pound would collapse and the City told MacDonald that the Labour government which had assumed office in June 1929 had not the confidence of foreign powers. In these circumstances a National Government was formed on August 24; the Cabinet comprised four Labour, four Conservatives and two Liberals. MacDonald's action created a breach within the Labour Party which, under the leadership of Arthur Henderson, went into Opposition.

THE CABINET'S TASK

MR MACDONALD'S BROADCAST

RESTORING CREDIT

Mr MacDonald, the Prime Minister, broadcast an address on the task of the National Government from all stations of the BBC last night. The principal points of the speech... were as follows.

At this moment I have changed none of my beliefs and none of my ideals. Foreigners who had been to our financial trust have listened to ghost stories in a gloomy atmosphere and have become rather nervous.

There is no danger whatever if treatment of the situation is given, but it must be immediate.

It cannot be trifled with. It is essential that the confidence of the world in our credit should be restored.

If there were any collapse in the pound we should be defaulting on our obligations to the rest of the world and our credit would be lost.

This would be fatal since this country above all others depends on the maintenance of its credit, having to buy as we do so large a part of our food and raw materials from abroad...

The people who would suffer most are the people not with large but with the smallest incomes.

Every one from whom we have borrowed or who has placed deposits in our keeping must be assured that the Budget will be balanced, and that assurance has to be given at once, not only as a declaration of intention but as a programme in the essential detail.

We certainly do not want economies which mean the suspension of programmes of work which we believe are for the national good, nor a reduction of expenditure which we also believe is in the long run sound.

But if by reason of shrinkage of national income these good works mean such borrowing as will damage credit - well, we must cut our coats according to the cloth...

The proposal now is that, as part of this urgently required national saving, unemployment benefits should be reduced by 10 per cent, but that children's allowances should not be touched at all.

During the last two brief years the cost of living has been reduced by 11 per cent, so that if the unemployment benefits had been subject to this consideration they would automatically, and without changing a hair's breadth of their value in maintaining their standard of life, already have been reduced without either clamour or fight by 11 per cent.

The proposal to reduce these benefits therefore leaves the recipients 1 per cent better off than they were in 1929.

We are told that this is a bankers' rump or a conspiracy, or something of the kind, against the Labour Government. The Chancellor of the Exchequer and myself were chosen by the Labour Government to be the contact between itself and the Bank of England. From our knowledge and experience I can give you all the most emphatic assurance that that charge is not true.

We were never presented with any political ultimatum. We never found in the attitude or conversation of those with whom we were negotiating any political bias, one way or another.

They told us, when we put up proposals to them, whether in their opinion those proposals would meet the circumstances, to give confidence. When they were doubtful they were perfectly willing that tests should be imposed.

The attitude which they will observe towards the new Government will be of precisely the same character as it was to the old, and if the new Government succeeds in getting a loan the old would also have succeeded, had the conditions been the same.

The only way to secure the necessary money is to afford to those who have money to lend a security that it will be paid back when required.

One thing and one thing only will put British credit in a position of security at this moment, and that is a scheme consisting in economies on the one side and further revenue on the other, a scheme well balanced with burdens imposed as lightly as possible but imposed equitably.

That scheme will be produced. In order to do it a Government has been formed. It is not a Coalition Government. I will take no part in that. It is not a Government which compels any party to change its principles or to subordinate its individuality. I should take no part in that either.

Whistle stop

From Dr C. B. T. Grant

Sir, Where have all the whistlers gone? Until fairly recently, people going to - or about - their work could be heard cheerfully whistling the current hit tunes. Now nobody whistles. Is this because modern pop music is largely unwhistleable?

Yours faithfully,
TRAVERS GRANT,
Chowles,
Rusper,
Horsham,
Sussex.

CRICKET: VICTORIOUS 12 NAMED FOR FINAL TEST AT THE OVAL

Selectors stick to their guns for Ashes showdown

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

By choosing the same 12 players to present themselves at the Oval on Thursday for the sixth and last Test match against Australia, sponsored by Cornhill, as went to Edgbaston for the fifth, the England selectors have kept down to 17 the number they will have called on this season. This is below the average for an Australian series, the reason being that the first six batting places have remained unchanged, other than when two nightwatchmen were employed at Lord's.

Normally, through injury or lack of form, batting changes have to be made. In 1981, 11 different batsmen were chosen for one Test or another against Australia. So they were in 1948. In 1921 no fewer than 19 were. Last year nine played against West Indies, though then, too, Lamb, Gower and Botham were ever-present. Lamb, incidentally, has played in England's last 37 Test matches and Gower in the last 44.

It is getting on for 30 years since England enjoyed a succession of higher totals than they are at the moment. In nine Test matches between June 1938 and March 1939, against Australia in England and South Africa out there, Hammond's side made seven totals of over 400, four of them being over 500. Since last November, Gower's side have now played 10 Test matches, in which they have passed 500 three times and 400 on four other occasions.

This means, firstly, that England can still produce prolific batting sides, despite all the one-day cricket they play, and secondly that it is one thing playing against India and Australia and quite another to play West Indies. Last year England reached 300 only once in 10 innings against Clive Lloyd's storm-troopers.

Only two changes are likely to have been contemplated in the 12 for Thursday: a different wicketkeeper and another batsman. Downman's retention means that he can be sure now of being chosen again for West Indies, where he played in three Test matches in 1980-81. The fact that officials of the West Indian Board of Control flew to England over the weekend suggests that negotiations regarding England's winter tour are coming to a head.

Although in the 12 for Thursday, Agnew could again be left out. The last place rests presumably between him and Taylor. It can be said for Taylor that he was unlucky at Edgbaston, where he had a Vespa missed at slip early in the innings, and for Agnew that his best spell for England was at the

England 12

| | Age | Tests |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|
| D I Gower (Leeds) | 28 | 3 |
| J P Agnew (Leeds) | 25 | 3 |
| IT Botham (Somerset) | 29 | 78 |
| JP R Downton (Middle) | 28 | 20 |
| P H Edmonds (Middle) | 34 | 32 |
| R M Ellison (Kent) | 31 | 6 |
| J E Embury (Middle) | 33 | 27 |
| M W Gatting (Middle) | 28 | 40 |
| G A Gough (Essex) | 32 | 47 |
| A Girdle (Nottingham) | 31 | 37 |
| RT Robinson (Notts) | 28 | 10 |
| L B Taylor (Leeds) | 31 | 1 |

Current averages

| Batting | Runs | NO | Runs | HS | Avg |
|-------------|------|----|------|--------|------|
| IT Botham | 25 | 4 | 1442 | 152.68 | 25.3 |
| RT Robinson | 24 | 3 | 1284 | 179.94 | 26.9 |
| L B Taylor | 23 | 3 | 1448 | 202.06 | 26.9 |
| M W Gatting | 22 | 4 | 1173 | 180.55 | 26.9 |
| D I Gower | 22 | 3 | 1101 | 216.55 | 26.9 |
| J P Agnew | 21 | 3 | 771 | 122.46 | 25.3 |
| P H Edmonds | 20 | 3 | 742 | 104.43 | 24.7 |
| R M Ellison | 19 | 4 | 489 | 80.51 | 24.7 |
| J E Embury | 18 | 2 | 107 | 30.13 | 24.7 |
| J P Agnew | 17 | 2 | 122 | 32.22 | 24.7 |
| P H Edmonds | 17 | 1 | 133 | 27.83 | 24.7 |

Bowling

| | Overs | Runs | Wickets | Avg |
|-------------|-------|------|---------|-------|
| R M Ellison | 342.1 | 508 | 53 | 17.09 |
| L B Taylor | 471.2 | 125 | 105 | 49.23 |
| J P Agnew | 402.4 | 82 | 138 | 54.33 |
| P H Edmonds | 654.3 | 198 | 146 | 34.20 |
| M W Gatting | 364.2 | 97 | 124 | 36.20 |
| IT Botham | 607.1 | 185 | 134 | 37.14 |
| A J Lamb | 1 | 1 | 0 | |
| R Robinson | 1 | 0 | 0 | |

Oval against the West Indies a year ago, when Greenidge and Richards gave him his first Test wickets. In theory the extra bounce expected here should suit Agnew the better of the two.

We have reached the time of year when players who were near to selection for a Test match but just missed it, such as Lawrence, of Gloucestershire, and Thomas, of Glamorgan, wonder whether their day will ever come, while others know that it has probably gone. Good, Lever, Knott, Pocock, Randall, Underwood and Boycott fall into the second category. Lever and Knott must both have been close to recall. So, I think, was Dilley, but at 36 he is still plenty young enough to get back.

For batsmen eager to get into the Test side, it has been a frustrating season watching those in possession doing so well. Christopher Smith, Slack, and Athey have all made a lot of good runs, as they well might have done, given the chance. In the Test matches, so, of course, might Randall, who has never had a better season.

But the batsmen being most widely canvassed to go to West Indies, in addition to the regular regulars, are Willey, because he is tough, and David Smith, formerly of Surrey and now with Worcestershire, because he stands up well to fast bowling. When the touring team comes to be chosen on September 19 there will be half a dozen English batsmen with an average of over 50 who rate no more than a passing mention, and that is very unusual.

Leaders held up

By Ivo Tennant

Little could be gleaned from Saturday's cricket as the outcome of the county championship. Neither Gloucestershire, the leaders, nor Middlesex, who have played a game more, made any headway; indeed, neither gained so much as a bonus point.

On yet another day when matches all round the country were disrupted by rain, Gloucestershire were out by Hampshire and crawled to 89 for five. Hampshire have to win in Bournemouth Week to stay in contention for the title.

Middlesex were kept trailing in the field at Hove, largely by a 138-run opening stand between Mendis and Green, the Sussex opener. As

well as Daniel bowled, their catching let them down.

Surrey, too, effectively have to win their current match if they are to improve on the progress of the two front runners. At Chelmsford they were put in by Essex and, after a rapid start by Butler and Clinton, subsided in the face of a quick medium-pace from Foster and Green.

Elsewhere, Randall maintained his excellent form this season, scoring 94 for Nottinghamshire against Derbyshire, and at Edgbaston, Middlesex were kept trailing in the field at Hove, largely by a 138-run opening stand between Mendis and Green, the Sussex opener. As

YESTERDAY'S OTHER SCOREBOARDS

| Derbyshire v Notts | | Worce v Warwick | |
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| AT HEANOR | | AT WORCESTER | |
| Derbyshire (A) beat Nottinghamshire by 7 wickets | | WORCESTER | |
| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE | | WORCESTER | |
| A T Robinson ran out | 14 | T B Curtis & Smith | 57 |
| G B Broad hit boundary | 58 | D B D Olivera 1-4 w & Ball | 3 |
| W H Handford 4-11 & Mortenson | 31 | S M Smith & Gifford | 36 |
| M P Rice & Morris hit boundary | 14 | A B Rick 1-4 w & Curtis | 1 |
| P Johnson & Newman hit Finney | 17 | O N Patel & Hoffmann & Gifford | 1 |
| M P Rice & Morris hit boundary | 11 | A B Rick & Morris & Ball | 1 |
| S N French 1-4 w & Mortenson | 4 | S 1 Rhodes ran out | 32 |
| G Fraser-Darling & Newman | 7 | N R Bradford not out | 1 |
| W Morris hit boundary | 14 | Curtis 1-1, 1-11, 1-3, 1-4, 1-7 | 1 |
| R A Pick not out | 7 | Total (15 wickets, 40 overs) | 212 |
| Extras (4-0, 4, 4, 4-4) | 18 | P J Newport, J D Hoffmann & S M McEwan and not bat | 1 |
| Total (15 wickets, 37 overs) | 178 | FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 5-25, 3-102, 4-130, 4-148, 5-228, 6-248, 6-262, 6-265 | 1 |
| K E Cooper did not bat | 4 | BOWLING: Watt 31-3-21, Hoffmann 8-0-40, 3-38, 3-39-47, Ferreira 8-0-59-0, Gifford 8-0-50-0, Smith 8-0-36-1 | 1 |
| FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-4, 3-82, 4-105, 5-139, 6-144, 7-148, 8-167 | 1 | WARWICKSHIRE | 1 |
| BOWLING: Holding 7-0-33-1, Finney 10-0-32-2, Mortenson 6-0-26-2, Newman 6-0-20-1, Roberts 4-0-22-1, Barnett 4-0-22-0 | 1 | A T Lloyd ran out | 5 |
| Derbyshire (A) beat Nottinghamshire by 7 wickets | 1 | G D Lord 1-4 w & Hoffmann | 1 |
| Derbyshire: 1st Innings 108, 2nd Innings 108, 3rd Innings 108, 4th Innings 108, 5th Innings 108, 6th Innings 108, 7th Innings 108, 8th Innings 108, 9th Innings 108, 10th Innings 108, 11th Innings 108, 12th Innings 108, 13th Innings 108, 14th Innings 108, 15th Innings 108, 16th Innings 108, 17th Innings 108, 18th Innings 108, 19th Innings 108, 20th Innings 108, 21st Innings 108, 22nd Innings 108, 23rd Innings 108, 24th Innings 108, 25th Innings 108, 26th Innings 108, 27th Innings 108, 28th Innings 108, 29th Innings 108, 30th Innings 108, 31st Innings 108, 32nd Innings 108, 33rd Innings 108, 34th Innings 108, 35th Innings 108, 36th Innings 108, 37th Innings 108, 38th Innings 108, 39th Innings 108, 40th Innings 108, 41st Innings 108, 42nd Innings 108, 43rd Innings 108, 44th Innings 108, 45th Innings 108, 46th Innings 108, 47th Innings 108, 48th Innings 108, 49th Innings 108, 50th Innings 108, 51st Innings 108, 52nd Innings 108, 53rd Innings 108, 54th Innings 108, 55th Innings 108, 56th 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HORIZONS

A guide to career choice

The mirage of Oxford

A place at Oxford or Cambridge remains one of the glittering prizes of the academic world.

Whatever standards of excellence may be set by provincial universities such as Southampton, and regardless of the trail-blazing innovations introduced by such institutions as Salford, Oxbridge continues as the apogee of parental ambitions and scholarly adolescents' dreams.

One of the best informed observers of the higher education scene commented recently: "any non-Oxbridge university professor would want his or her own children to go to Oxford or Cambridge in preference to elsewhere - including their own universities."

At this moment, the two ancient universities are in the middle of tremendous turbulence as they reform radically their systems of examinations and admissions. Accusations of elitism have led them to adopt positive measures to encourage applicants from a wider educational and social clientele.

In particular, the reform of the seventh-term exam should make it easier for pupils from comprehensive schools to apply.

From the viewpoint of Oxford and Cambridge there is nothing to lose and all to gain by these new arrangements. There may be all sorts of nuances of snobism attached to the two universities but, fundamentally, they rely on academic excellence as the basis of their reputations.

In this, their position has been consolidated. Oxbridge students are expected to have greater intelligence and more intellectual flair than the typical undergraduate from elsewhere. By attracting more applicants and being able to survey the pick of the comprehensive as well as the public and grammar school crop, Oxbridge will be able to emphasize still further its claim as the centre for the academic elite.

If egalitarianism has been the motive for the demand for change, then it has backfired. The two universities will emerge from the reforms with their status enhanced yet further.

The number of applicants has, indeed, already risen during the past 12 months as students who are considered capable of three grade As (or near enough) reckon they might as well have a go at Oxbridge. The "conspiracy of tolerance" towards Oxbridge applicants means that few students suffer at their second or third choice universities because they are nominated on the Universities Central Council on Admissions (UCCA) form behind a shot at Balliol or Trinity.

But because the two universities appear to be shifting towards a more

Edward Fennell on the pros and cons of places at Britain's two elite universities

straightforward and "objective" selection of students based on A-level results, it is bound to create dilemmas for those whose results this year have turned out to be much better than expected.

At this moment there are probably hundreds of students who have received excellent results and are now in a quandary about whether to drop their places for this October at first-year provincial universities in favour of an application for Oxford or Cambridge for next year.

An UCCA representative commented: "Each year of application is treated on its merits and if students wish to drop out now from this year's round then they are entirely at liberty to do so. It won't be held against them in any way for next year."

"It is even unlikely that this year's rejected university will feel much offended. They are reasonable people and they understand the attraction of Oxbridge."

An Oxbridge degree is not a guarantee of a job with a blue-chip employer or entry into a select profession

All that UCCA asks, in fact, is that people make up their minds quickly. "It is a matter of courtesy, common sense and fairness to other people," the spokesman explained. "This is a time when events move quickly and for the clearing system to work effectively, it is important to know as early as possible which places are not going to be taken up by those to whom they have been offered."

The situation confronting these students is not, however, quite as simple as it might seem as the two universities are using different systems and are on different time-scales.

At Cambridge, the last seventh-term exams are being held this November for admission in 1986, or deferred entry for 1987. Even applicants who already possess very good A-level results may be required to sit this exam as part of the selection

process. In short, those whose sights are set on Cambridge are still faced by the exam hurdle.

Oxford applicants have an easier option. Oxford has now given up its seventh-term, so this year's A-level successes need only face an interview, although this might be supplemented by a one-hour exam at the same time.

For the following year, i.e. admission in October 1987, onward arrangements will be different. Oxford will run a fourth-term exam for those who have not yet taken their A-levels, while Cambridge is organizing a special sixth-term exam to be taken concurrently with A-levels.

Whether this hedgepodge of new measures really will simplify the system remains to be seen. But they do mean that you still have to surmount more obstacles to get into Oxbridge than you do anywhere else.

This is perhaps one of the reasons why they exercise their mercurial powers on so many middle-class families. The fact that sixth-form teachers set so much store by their Oxbridge entrants, as a mark of their own success, serves only to compound the general neurosis.

Success or failure in getting to Oxbridge becomes a kind of definitive judgement on whether pupils have "justified" their years of secondary education.

What is worse is that good students who fail to get in feel damaged by the experience, resenting their rejection, and nursing the grievance for years afterwards. Viewers of the recent *Seven Up* television series will recall that one young man, who ended up as a virtual vagabond, traced his "fall" back to his disappointment at not being accepted by Oxford.

The fact is that people place too high a value on an Oxbridge acceptance. Although the aesthetic and social experience may be charming, it is by no means a surefire way to three years of delight. More important, an Oxbridge degree is no guarantee of securing a job with a blue-chip employer or gaining entrance to a select profession.

It might give you the edge in getting on to the shortlist, but thereafter you will be judged on your merits.

If you talk with the graduate recruitment officers of merchant banks such as Samuel Montagu, a top accountant such as Arthur Anderson, or other prestigious recruiters such as the British Council and the BBC, you will find them far too sensible to be dazzled by the Oxbridge cachet. They are looking for quality recruits and they will pick them out whatever their pedigree.

A dash of academic brilliance at 18 is not sufficient to ensure a lifetime of success. Apply to Oxbridge if you like - but don't become obsessed by it.

EDUCATIONAL COURSES REVIEW

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also on page 19

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- 6.50 **Breakfast Time** with Debbie Greenwood and Mike Smith at the roadshow in Blackpool. Guests include Lana Zavaroni, Paul Shure, from *Hi-de-Hi*, and Vince Hill.
- 9.20 **The Panther Show**. More cartoons.
- 9.40 **Huckleberry Finn** and **His Friends**. Last part of the series based on the stories by Mark Twain. (7)
- 10.05 **Heartbeat**. A different approach to making pictures. (7)
- 10.25 **C-P and Quikstitch**.
- 10.30 **Play School**. Presented by Fraser Wilson. (7)
- 10.50 **Bagpuss**. A See-Saw programme. (7)
- 11.05 **Blue Racer Double Bill**. Fowl Play, Nippon and Tuck.
- 11.15 **Children's Hour**. Two children run away to New York, where they become obsessed with a marble statue at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, believing it to be the work of Michelangelo.
- 1.00 **News Summary and Weather**.
- 1.05 **Film: Jaws**. Verne's Rocket to the Moon. The great American showman Phineas T Barnum decides to send a rocket ship to the moon with General Tom Thumb, the midwife, as passenger. A colourful Victorian period piece with the late Jimmy Clitheroe as Tom Thumb and Burl Ives giving a burlesque performance as Barnum. Directed in 1967 by Don Sharp.
- 3.00 **Grandstand**. Swimming from Leeds. The ASA national championships. Show jumping from Hixstead, Athletics from Cologne. Final Scores.
- 5.10 **Disneynite**.
- 6.00 **News**. 5.10 Sport.
- 6.15 **Jim'll Fix It**. Favourites from the last 10 years. Five-year-old Christopher as Dr Kildare; Louise Halls starring 100 doors; David Whittier as a 10-year-old butler and Nicola Tedman as *Woman in White*.
- 7.00 **News**. With Cliff Richard, Nigel Hawthorne and Sarah Polley.
- 7.40 **Ever Decreasing Circles**. Martin (Richard Briers) discovers the dangers of do-gooding after inviting a pansopher to tea. (7)
- 8.10 **Film: Witness for the Prosecution**. Agatha Christie stage play adapted in 1952 by Alan Gibson - not to be confused with 1957 version directed by Billy Wilder with his unforgettable performance by Charles Laughton. Ralph Richardson plays the bad tempered barrister who has been ordered to refrain from any more brandy, cigars or criminal defence because of poor health. But soon he is on his feet again in the courtroom.
- 9.50 **News**.
- 10.05 **Bob Monkhouse Meets Joan Rivers**. The sharp-tongued comedienne Joan Rivers, notorious in the United States for her caustic wit, made her British television debut on this programme. Her barbed comments and high speed comic patter spans no one in Hollywood. Also, Frankie Goes to Hollywood perform "Relax". (7)
- 10.50 **Edinburgh Military Tattoo** 1985. Final appearance of the Royal Navy Display Team, which has taken victory in a manoeuvre. The team's 60 artists will perform more than 200 co-ordinated movements without command 40 feet above the ground. Also the Massed Pipes and Drums; a drum salute and the Dances; The Royal Hong Kong Police Band; The Massed Military Bands and The Finale with "Last Post". 12.05-12.10 Weather.

TV-am

- 7.00 **Good Morning Britain**. The Wide Awake Club Bank Holiday Special with Tommy Boyd, Annette Warner and Charles Golding. Interview with Madness and cartoon capers with The Littles. Waco Five. Kids Action Desk. News at 7.00, 8.00 and 8.30. The OVRAS Summer Spectacular with Roland Rat at 9.03.
- 9.25 **Walt Disney Presents Mickey Mouse**.
- 9.35 **Garfield on the Town**. Cantankerous cat cartoons. (7)
- 10.00 **Half a Sixpence**. Musical about a draper's assistant who inherits a fortune and moves into high society. A rousing performance from Tommy Steele, with plenty of period detail in this adaptation of H. G. Wells's *Kipps*. Directed by George Sidney in 1967.
- 12.30 **Bank Holiday Sport Special**. 12.30 Sports Desk. 12.35 **Buckwheat Million**. The richest horse race from Arlington Park, Chicago. 12.45 **Football**. Preview of today's matches. 1.00 **News**. 1.05 **International Cricket**. The World Series from the Trinidad Country Club, Alton, Ohio. 1.45 **International Athletics**. England v Czechoslovakia v Poland v Hungary from Crystal Palace. 2.05 Sports Desk. 2.10 The **ITV Five**. 2.15 **News**. 2.30 **Epsom**. 2.45 **News**. 3.00 **Epsom**. 3.15 **News**. 3.30 **International Athletics** from Crystal Palace. 3.50 **Half-time Roundup**. 4.00 **International Athletics**. 4.45 **Results** service.
- 5.00 **News**.
- 5.05 **Stockbusters**. New series of the quiz show for 16 to 18-year-olds hosted by Bob Holness.
- 5.35 **The Making of Superman III**. Christopher Reeve, the quick-change saviour of the world, can be seen in this film on Thursday night week-end in *Deathtrap* at 9.00 tonight.
- 6.30 **Affairs of the Heart**. Final episode of the comedy with Derek Fowlds as a heart attack victim. (Oracle).
- 7.00 **The Krypton Factor**. Two men and two women confront the demanding mental and physical quiz. British water-aid champion Phillipa Roberts; Gaelic football star Brendan Toner; tennis player and engineering underwriter Jennifer Skelton; parachuting kangaroo expert and actor Peter Sykes. (Oracle).
- 7.30 **Coronation Street**. Vera plays the peacekeeper. (Oracle).
- 8.00 **Jim Davidson's Special** with Max Bygraves, The Moody Blues, John Barlow, Jedro and JO's Band.
- 8.45 **News**.
- 8.50 **Film: Deathtrap**. Nothing is what it seems in this brilliant and twisting whodunnit within a whodunnit. Michael Caine is a Broadway playwright wounded by a series of hops. Christopher Reeve is one of Sidney Bruke's former drama students who has written a murder mystery play that Sidney cheerfully admits he would kill for. Ryan O'Neal is Sidney's glib, manipulative, and one of them becomes a corpse in the claustrophobic confines of Sidney's house as sexual tension and ambition rivalry run riot. Directed by Sidney Lumet in 1982, based on the *kill* Levin play. (Oracle).
- 11.10 **"Y"**. A woman saves freedom fighters Donovan and Kyle from the alien occupiers.
- 12.10 **News**. Highlights with Peter Wright. News from Holy Trinity Church in Tottenham, north London, followed by *Closedown*.

CHOICE

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- Best of the day's films: Kubrick's *PATHS OF GLORY* (BBC2, 10.40pm) fits the war film into a category which, in the late 1950s when we were first left shattered by it, had no precedent. Butchery, though abundant, takes second place to power struggle. Brilliantly filmed in black-and-white, it still has more philosophical grays than any war film. In *HALF A SIXPENCE* (ITV, 10.00pm), the American director George Sidney so transformed the traditional British talent he worked with that he ended up with a charming musical with traditional Hollywood style and energy.
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BR braces itself for more disruption

Continued from page 1

remained optimistic of a "yes" vote this weekend.

Senior union officials in the west of Scotland, the North-east, Yorkshire, the West and East Midlands and the South-west and London all made clear yesterday that they expected majorities in favour of industrial action, without venturing any guess as to percentages.

All reported a heavy turnout, confounding informal suggestions early last week by some managers that, although the vote was likely to be in favour of industrial action, there might be a low poll.

The union's executive is likely to hold an intense debate on what course to adopt when it meets after the count on Wednesday, with some prominent members pressing for selective action, possibly backed by a national overtime ban, others arguing for a complete strike.

The Central Electricity Generating Board and the National Coal Board have contingency plans for ensuring the movement of coal normally carried by British Rail.

About 600,000 tonnes of coal a week, about a quarter of the total, is shipped by road and industry estimates suggest that that amount could be doubled quickly in the event of a strike. A further 600,000 tonnes or so might have to be put into stock by the coal board.

Road haulage capacity is sufficient to handle such a volume, but much would depend on how National Union of Mineworkers members on pit surfaces react to orders to load lorries.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, NUR general secretary, is expected to meet Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, and other miners' leaders in Blackpool next week to discuss support. South Wales area NUM leaders have made clear that they intend to support the railwaymen.

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the coal board, is expected to take a tough line and to suspend miners who refuse to obey instructions to load lorries. The coal board believes that it has learnt valuable lessons from the miners' strike in shifting abnormal volumes of coal by road.

Lloyd's HQ gets mixed reception

By Charles Kneivitt

Architecture Correspondent

Controversy stalks Mr Richard Rogers, this year's Royal Gold Medalist for Architecture.

With his £157 million new headquarters for Lloyd's of London in the City nearing completion (it will be opened officially next May), his latest project is proving no exception.

Mr Rogers was co-architect, with Signor Renzo Piano, of the Centre Pompidou hi-tech arts centre in Paris, often likened to a multi-coloured oil refinery. Yet it draws more visitors every day than the Eiffel Tower and Louvre combined.

His Gold Medal citation, from the Royal Institute of British Architects, hailed his architecture as bringing to high technology "an element of baroque, a richness and a popular touch".

Specifically referring to the Lloyd's building, it described it as "a tour de force of structural ingenuity, constructional quality and a design of almost medieval richness of form".

The reaction of city workers canvassed by *The Times* last week ranged from "marvellous", "innovative" and plain "indifferent", to "hideous" and "monstrous".

Mrs Anne-Marie Salmon, a secretary and a Parisian, said it reminded her of the Pompidou Centre. "It is very impressive and very beautiful".

Mr David Pease, a Lloyd's broker who will be working in the new building, thought the design innovative, exciting and would work well.

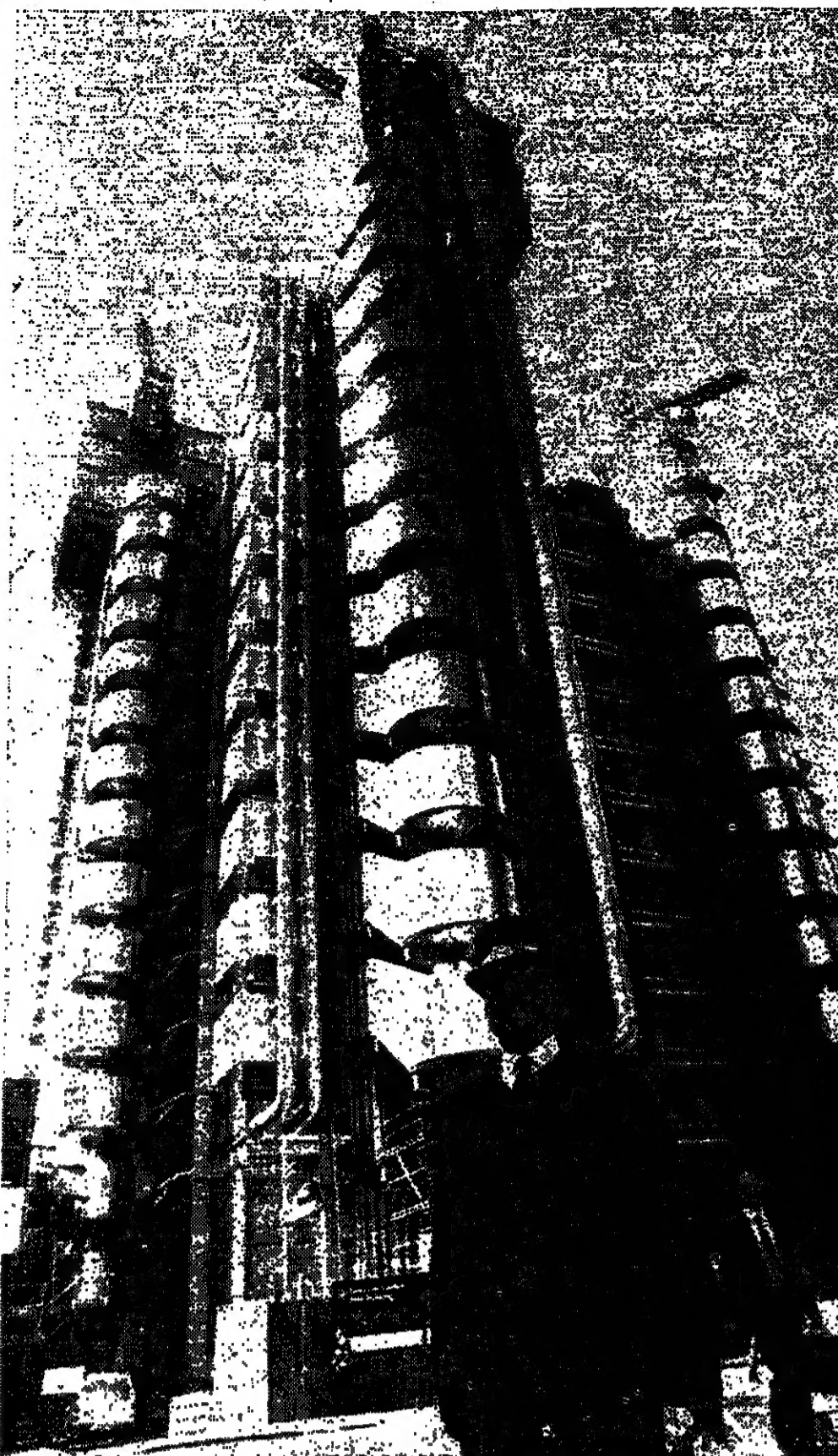
Another broker, in a rush, commented, "It looks like a space shuttle".

Mrs Iris Date, an assistant in the Treasury Chest tobaccoists behind the new building, thought it was "a marvellous piece of work", but "out of context" with the surrounding buildings.

Mr Nigel Mackintosh and Mr David Newman, counter assistants at Duff and Trotter, the Leadenhall Market grocery next door, agreed it was "hideous", if rather "exciting" at the same time.

But Mr Len James, head doorman at Lloyd's, where he has been employed for 32 years, will not be moving across the road to the new headquarters. He retires next March.

His verdict: a cautious - and diplomatic - well, its something different.



Mr Len James, head doorman at Lloyd's, in front of the new building. (Photograph: John Voos.)

It's cold, it's wet, it's bank holiday

Continued from page 1

But the respite is likely to be brief; after a fair start, tomorrow will soon turn cloudy, with rain spreading from the west.

Severe weekend weather in the Atlantic almost claimed the life of Mr Alan Armstrong, who had to be rescued by RAF helicopter when his 30ft yacht sank 85 miles north-west of the Scillies during a single-handed crossing from Newport, Rhode Island, to Swansea, South Wales. Mr Armstrong, who was winched up from a liferaft, said his boat had been overtaken by 30ft waves "as big as blocks of flats".

In two separate incidents, a middle-aged Essex man died when he was knocked overboard from his yacht Brydon in the Solent, and a woman was missing, presumed drowned, after falling overboard from the yacht Fluzie in the North Sea while heading for Whitby.

Another man was feared drowned while skin diving near the Manacles, off St Keverne, Cornwall. The man, aged 20, was with the Dorking Diving Club.

Twelve people had to be rescued from burning boats during powerboat racing off Cowes, Isle of Wight, during the weekend. Ten people were taken off the motor cruiser Solarium, by another yacht when it caught fire close to Calshot Spit.

In another incident two competitors in the Sir Max Aitken Coves international offshore powerboat race were picked up when their boat Manhattan caught fire and sank of the Beaulieu estuary.

But there were brief bright sunbursts in the wet weekend. Sunbathers on the beach at Stradling, Dorset, yesterday were puzzled to see a family decorate a beach hut, erect a Christmas tree, hang out presents and eat turkey. Mr Jason Ganner, of Birmingham, said letters and cards from relatives enjoying a beach Christmas in Australia last year had made him envious.

Packaging the jet set, page 8

Victor Zorza is on holiday in England and his column on life in an Indian village will resume next month.

Letter from San Sebastian Basking defiantly in the Basque sun

This seaside resort, which is usually newsworthy for bombings, kidnappings and killings attributed to ETA separatists, belies the media cliché about Spain's "violence - told" Basque region.

This summer San Sebastian's beaches have thousands of people sunning themselves. Its magnificent bay is crowded with small craft and windsurfers. It restaurants, famous for their fish, are full of holidaymakers willing to pay high prices.

It has been a long time since elegant old San Sebastian, Spain's answer to Biarritz and famous for *belle époque* charms such as the Victoria Eugenia Theatre, has celebrated a summer with such gusto.

"We are experiencing a marked recovery after years of terrorism and political troubles which were very bad for San Sebastian's reputation," Señor Ramon Labayen, the mayor and former spokesman for the Basque autonomous regional government, told me.

Compared with resorts like Benidorm, San Sebastian's summer influx on a winter population of only 175,000 is trivial, but since figures have gone up in a year generally bad for Spanish tourism, its leading hotels are full until October, the city authorities are content. High-quality women's and men's clothes in the shops convey the same message.

Señor Labayen has worked to give the resort a badly needed facelift, spending more money each year to restore its amenities.

A marked Anglophile, like many Basques, he worked in Norfolk before entering politics after Franco's death. He is preparing to celebrate in three years time with Plymouth, its twin city, the 400th anniversary of the Spanish Armada. A famous son of San Sebastian, Admiral Oquendo, headed the Guispuza fleet which sailed against Drake.

English performers such as the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields and the Gabrieli Quartet figure in this year's music festival, but the "mysterious disappearance" of British holidaymakers over the past two years is a worry.

Officials wonder if it part of Britain's decline.

Half the holidaymakers are Basques this year and the other half is made up of other Spaniards and foreigners. The British are trailing a long way behind Germans and Italians.

Property values, an architect said, offer more proof of San Sebastian's gradual recovery. By the time Franco died in 1975 it had suffered a double blow - from terrorism and from the fact that Spain's old ruling families could no longer afford a three-month summer stay at their holiday homes.

These old houses, left almost abandoned by their scared owners, have recently been selling nicely as sites for blocks of flats. One can pay £240,000 for a luxury flat overlooking the bay.

Of course terrorism is still around. The death toll throughout Spain so far this year is 28, chiefly among security forces, the other night "they" blew up the broadcasting station of Spain's biggest commercial radio network on San Sebastian's Mount Igeldo. It was by general admission, a blunder by the terrorists, who mistook their target. The Civil Guard's communications mast near by.

A reviving San Sebastian illustrates what now seems a groundswell change in Basque attitudes to terrorism. No longer cowed by gunmen, a majority has reacted by living as normally as possible.

"Ordinary people and holidaymakers feel safe here," another Basque said. They know ETA targets are the military, the Civil Guard and the police: it's they who are scared.

I felt sorry for two young national policemen on duty on an isolated stretch of the promenade looking out on the Bay of Biscay.

At the corner of the city's old quarter, where Basque youths before and after Franco's death regularly battled with the police amid tear gas and stones, a young girl goes by wearing a T-shirt. It reads in English "Try Living". San Sebastian is once again trying to do just that.

Richard Wigg

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Music

The Maltings Proms: folk finale. Snape Maltings Concert Hall, Suffolk, 7.30.
Brendan Shine in Concert. Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, N. Ireland, 8.
Organ recital by Adrian Lucas, Norwich Cathedral, 11.
Organ recital by Graham Elliot, (Chester Cathedral) Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, 11.15.
Organ recital by David Greenwood, Crompton Parish Church, 2.30.
Choral concert by Ex-Collegio, Wesley Memorial Church, Oxford, 8.
Organ recital by Kenneth Beard, parish church of St Mary, Southwell, Nottinghamshire, 3.30.
Organ recital by Dr Andrew Worlton-Steward, Lincoln Minster, 7.
Festival of British Youth Orchestras.

mus. concert by Stoneleigh Youth Orchestra, Central Hall, Toller, Edinburgh, 7.30.

Talks, films and lectures

Edinburgh Festival 1985: lecture by Yves Michaud (part 1: in French). L'Institut Français d'Ecosse, 13 Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh, 3.
General
National Trust Ulster Gardens scheme open days: Oul'lammas Fair, Ballycastle, all day; Railway Preservation Society steam locomotive Bangor Belle Railway, Depart Belfast (Central) 2 and 3.34; Depart Bangor 2.45 and 4.25; Roe Valley Country Park, Limavady, 2 to 6 N. Ireland.
Tong Farm open day. Headcorn, Swale, 11 to 5.
Sittingbourne spectacular, Albany Road recreation ground, 1.30.
International Festival Book Fair, Adam House, Chambers St, Edinburgh, 10 to 6.30.

Sunday at Didcot railway centre, Oxford, 11 to 5.

Arundel Festival (until Sept 1).

Id al Adha (festival marking pilgrimage to Makkah). Dar-us-Salam, 15 Stanley Avenue, Wembley, 10.
London Hush House Harriers meet Hampstead Heath, 7.
Gainsborough Model Railway Society's Gauge 'O' model open, the clubrooms, Florence Terrace, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, 1.30 to 6.
Rides on new railway track, Avoncroft Museum of Buildings, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, 2.30.
Railway extravaganza, Southall Railway Centre, Middlesex, 10.30 to 6.
Stem event day, Birmingham Railway Museum, 10.5.
Steam event at Dinting Railway Centre, Glossop, Derbyshire, 10.30 to 5.
Malmsbury Carnival Week, Wilshire (until Aug 31).
Ipsley Craft Fair, Yorkshire Dales, 10 to 5.
Craft and flower festival, All Saints' Parish Church, Chigwell Row, 11 to 7.
Antique fair, Meat House Hotel, Hereford, 10.30 to 5.
Working demonstration of tractors, Hunday National Tractor and Farm museum, Newton, Shropshire, 10.30 to 5.
Burton Cup week, Tynemouth Sailing Club, 11.
Glendale Agricultural Show, Showfield, Wooler, 11.
Newcastle Race, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, 2.15.
Music in Handel's London: Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge: Tues to Sat 2 to 5; Sun 2.15 to 5 (ends Sept 2).
Hiroshima: paintings by survivors, Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford: Tues to Sat 10 to 5; closed Mon; (ends Sept 29).
Welsh industry in art, Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum, Bute Street, Cardiff: Mon to Sat 10 to 5; Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Sept 30).
Sound Sculptures by Peter Appleton, Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield: Mon to Sat 10 to 8; Sun 2 to 5 (ends Aug 31).
The Birds of America by J. J. Audubon (1783-1851). Ruskin Gallery, 101 Norfolk Street, Sheffield: Mon to Fri 10 to 5; Sat 10 to 5; closed Sun (ends Sept 28).
Tintoretto's *Deposition of Christ*: National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh: Mon to Sat 10 to 5; Sun 2 to 5 (ends Sept 22).

Nature notes

On the coast, most guillemots and razorbills have deserted their nesting cliffs, but some are still feeding their young on the sea near by. Some puffins are still to be seen on land, especially on the Scottish islands: their fledglings stay much longer in their nesting-burrows than the razorbills and guillemots chicks on their exposed ledges. Many waders are arriving from the north on sandy shores, mainly dunlin and ringed plover, but also small numbers of ruff and greenshank. Common gulls are coming south from Scotland.
A few brown leaves are falling from planes and elms; on poplars, the long-stalked green leaves twist and turn continuously in the wind, but are rarely blown off unless a whole branch comes down. On alders, the hanging seeds or "keys" are very yellow.
Canadian *Asclepias* is common at the edge of London pavements: it is an upright plant, with flowers consisting of such tiny white petals that it looks as if it has run to seed when it is actually in full bloom. In the hedges, woody nightshade displays almost all the colours of the rainbow, with its purple and yellow flowers, and its bunches of green, orange and scarlet berries.

Roads

Midlands: M5: Contrailow between junction 4 (Bromsgrove) and junction 5 (Droitwich). Hereford and Worcester delays at peak times. M1: Contrailow at junction 14 (Milton Keynes, Bucks); all traffic sharing northbound carriageway, only northbound exit slip road open at all times. M4: Contrailow at junction 13 and 15 as alternatives. A57: Lincoln to Worksop road reduced to one lane near Lincoln Racecourse. A66: Extra traffic expected over weekend near Rushden, Northants. A46/A44: Congestion likely throughout weekend, at Stoneleigh, Kenilworth. Contrailow expected between middle and 2pm in town centre, Leamington, Warwick, also on A417 Leamington to Gloucester road.
North: M6: Lane closures on both carriageways between junction 22 (Preston) and junction 33 (A6 to Lancaster South). M62: between junction 18 (M56) and junction 19 (M6) and junction 19 (M6) and junction 20 (M62) contrailow E of junction 24 (The Golden). Contrailow E of junction 24, Gwent. Eastbound traffic reduced to single file through contrailow. Entry slip road eastbound at junction 24 closed from 7am to 7pm daily. Race traffic on M4, A46, M5, A50 and A52.
Scotland: Roads in Edinburgh busy as Edinburgh Festival continues; avoid city centre. M7/A74: Roadworks in several places between Carlisle and Glasgow: north between 885, Carlisle and 886, Glasgow. M6: All traffic sharing one carriageway at junction 26 (Hillingdon interchange) to W of Glasgow. (Information supplied by AA)

Weather forecast

Depression over NE Scotland will move away to Norway.

Gam to midnight

London, SE, E England, East Angles: Sunny periods, scattered showers, clearing at night, wind NW fresh, becoming W moderate; max temp 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).
S. Wales: S, N Wales: Mainly dry, sunny periods, wind fresh, becoming moderate; max temp 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).
S. Wales: S, N Wales: Mainly dry, sunny periods, wind fresh, becoming moderate; max temp 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).
Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Border, Edinburgh, Dundee, NW: Mainly dry, sunny periods, wind fresh, becoming W moderate; max temp 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).
Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers drying out, wind NW fresh or strong, becoming mainly W light; max temp 13 to 16C (55 to 59F).
Argyll, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Sunny periods at first, becoming rather cloudy later, rain in evening; wind W light or moderate, becoming SW moderate; max temp 18 to 17C (64 to 63F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Rain, spreading across all areas, followed by bright spells.

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